

28 die in pitched battles as black faction fighting rages in Natal

Negotiations to start soon says Mandela

From Gavin Bell in Cape Town, Ray Kennedy in Johannesburg, Nicholas Beeson in Soweto, and Richard Ford in London

Mr Nelson Mandela last night drove to a secret location after expressing confidence that negotiations with the De Klerk Government for a non-racial society would begin soon.

But as the newly-released African National Congress leader described his hopes for a peaceful, democratic society, battles raged between rival black factions in Natal, killing at least 28 people.

And in Soweto, about a hundred people fought in the crush at the Orlando Stadium where 50,000 had gathered to see Mr Mandela, only to be disappointed as his homecoming was postponed again.

Mr Mandela had flown by private jet from Cape Town — where he held a press conference at the home of Archbishop Desmond Tutu — to Johannesburg, and is believed to have spent the night at the suburban home of Mr Richard Maponya, a wealthy black businessman.

Last night only a couple of hundred supporters remained outside the Mandelas' home, keeping up the singing and dancing that had continued non-stop for 48 hours.

Mr Mandela had told the press conference that he expected the remaining obstacles to negotiations would be removed very soon, and that the ANC would seize the earliest opportunity for a political settlement.

There was no contradiction between the continuation of the armed struggle and a commitment to peace. "The armed struggle is merely a

defensive act against the violence of apartheid. If the government gives us the opportunity, we are ready to make a positive contribution towards a peaceful settlement."

Mr de Klerk is a man of integrity, and he seems to be fully aware of the danger of making undertakings which he fails to honour.

His own part in the peace process would be determined by the ANC leadership in Zambia, and he would go to Lusaka to discuss that at the earliest opportunity.

On white fears of domination by the black majority, he said: "Whites are fellow South Africans, and we want them to feel safe and that we appreciate the contribution they have made towards the development of our country."

He also hoped for reconciliation with rival black political organizations and to win the support of leaders of the tribal homelands accorded notional independence by Pretoria.

More than 3,000 people have been killed in the past three-and-a-half years of warfare between the Inkatha movement of Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi and the ANC, and as Mr Mandela spoke, the violence flared more viciously than ever.

One woman said the province had turned into a blood-bath, with people being shot, stabbed, hacked and sliced to death with machetes. The worst hit area was Mpumalanga, where at least 10 people were killed.

In several other parts of the

country, the celebrations of Mr Mandela's release turned ugly. In Johannesburg a white security guard opened fire on a group of black revellers, killing one and wounding four.

A limpet mine explosion at Newlands, Cape Town, badly damaged a ticket office at the cricket ground where Mike Gitting's team is due to begin a "test" match against South Africa on Thursday, and similar explosions were also reported in Paarl, Parow and Soweto. No-one was hurt.

Meanwhile, the neo-fascist Afrikaner Resistance Movement predicted increased violence. Mr Eugene Terre Blanche, its leader, said it planned to hold up to five protest marches a week.

The fears of such a white backlash were cited in the Commons as Mr William Waldegrave, the Foreign Office minister, defended the Government's determination to ease sanctions.

The Prime Minister is willing to act unilaterally to remove a number of voluntary sanctions, and Mr Waldegrave told MPs that if nothing were done to support those wishing to negotiate, Britain would be blamed "when the white backlash sweeps De Klerk away."

With Labour accusing the Prime Minister of being isolated at the United Nations and in the Commonwealth, sources made clear that she did not "give two hoots" about being in a minority of one as long as she was right.

Mrs Thatcher would go ahead with her invitation to Mr Mandela, who said yesterday that he would seek ANC advice before replying.

Mr Mandela had earlier

Continued on page 20, col 7



In peace: Mr Nelson Mandela with his wife Winnie and Archbishop Tutu enjoying an early morning stroll around the archbishop's garden in Cape Town.

Quiet charm in a flower garden

From Gavin Bell, Cape Town

Mr Nelson Mandela emerges from a lifetime of persecution as a courteous, articulate and modest man with no trace of rancour.

In contrast with the pandemonium of his release, the veteran revolutionary appeared before the world's press yesterday in a more leisurely manner, in the gracious surroundings of Archbishop Desmond Tutu's official residence on the slopes of Table Mountain in suburban Cape Town.

The historic mansion and extensive grounds provided a magnificent setting. For the benefit of photographers, Mr Mandela and Winnie, his wife, strolled hand in hand through the flower garden, for all the world like shy newly-weds. In front of them Archbishop Tutu gambolled — there is really no other way of describ-

ing his ebullient behaviour — as the happiness of the reunited couple was recorded for posterity.

Family portraits were composed with their daughter, Zindzi, and their grandchildren. Then there were poses with political comrades, arms upraised in clenched-fist salutes, as African National Congress supporters on the lawn chanted Mr Mandela's name in a soft refrain.

Finally, in response to a request from Chris Harris, the photographer from *The Times*, Mr Mandela stood alone, a gaunt but erect figure in a light brown suit, squinting in the strong sunlight, at once a distinguished elderly gentleman and the symbol of resistance to racial oppression.

Journalists are not given to applauding speakers at press

Continued on page 6, col 6



In panic: A child pushed against a barrier at the Soweto stadium as crowds awaited Mr Mandela.

INSIDE Lawson speaks



● "We've been treated to a dose of the sort of sanctimonious humbug which is characteristic of sections of the British Press. It is the politics of envy and an awful lot of humbug." On page 10 Nigel Lawson talks to Barbara Amiel about money, Mrs Thatcher, his past, and his future

Portfolio PLATINUM

● Three readers shared yesterday's £2,000 Portfolio Platinum prize (see page 3). Today's game: page 24

Sketchley bid

Sketchley, the dry cleaning to vending machines group, is attempting to fight off a £137.6 million takeover bid from Godfrey Davis, the Sunlight laundry services to motor leasing group. Page 21

Boxing turmoil

The boxing world was in turmoil after the decision to declare the heavyweight title bout between Mike Tyson and James Douglas void. Page 42

INDEX

Home News	2-5
Overseas	6-8
Business	21-28
Sport	37-42
Appointments	35-36
Arts	11
Births, marriages, deaths	15
Church news	14
Court and social	14
Crosswords	18-20
Diary	12
Entertainments	18
Fashion	16, 17
Features	10, 12
Information	30
Law Report	30
Leading articles	13
Legal	30-34
Letters	73
Obituary	14
Parliament	4
Saleroom	14
Science Report	40
Snow reports	19
TV & Radio	20
Weather	20
Wills	14

Guinness trial jury gets ready for long hearing

By Paul Wilkinson

The Guinness trial finally got under way yesterday at Southwark Crown Court, south London, with the swearing-in of the jury for a hearing that is expected to last up to six months. The jury was given the rest of the day off to settle domestic arrangements.

Today details of the Crown's case against the brewing group's former chairman and chief executive, Mr Ernest Saunders, and his three co-accused will be outlined by Mr John Chadwick QC.

The case arises out of an alleged illegal share support operation launched by Guinness in the closing stages of its takeover of the drinks group Distillers in 1986. The charges came after a DTT investigation into the takeover battle when Guinness beat a rival bid from the Argyll group.

Mr Saunders, Mr Gerald Ronson, chairman of Britain's second largest privately-owned group, the Heron Corporation; Mr Anthony Parnes, a City stockbroker; and Sir Jack Lyons, a millionaire financier and arts patron, deny 24 charges alleging theft, false accounting and breaches of the Companies Act.

The charges, page 2

also affected. Rail services between London and Glasgow were disrupted when trees brought down power lines near Beattock, Dumfries and Galloway, and police warned drivers of high-sided vehicles on the M6 in Cumbria of high winds and snow.

Conditions on roads in the North deteriorated overnight and the police warned that snow could turn to ice, making driving treacherous.

In mid-Wales, heavy snowfalls blocked the A44 trunk road at Eisteddfod Gurig on the Powys-Dyfed border near Aberystwyth. Elsewhere, huge waves whipped up by high winds flooded homes around Colwyn Bay,

Emergency in Soviet republic

Moscow (AFP) — The Soviet central Asian republic of Tajikistan declared a state of emergency yesterday because of mass disorders, accompanied by arson and looting in the capital Dushanbe. A 10pm to 6am curfew was imposed.

Tass reported "demonstrations... pogroms, fires and looting." It gave no casualty figures nor said what had caused the violence, but reports linked it to plans to resettle Armenian refugees.

An RAF helicopter winchman was in intensive care in Gwynedd Hospital last night after a mishap on exercise. The winchman, from RAF Valley, Anglesey, had been lowered by helicopter to a ledge on Holy Island, near Holyhead. When the aircraft returned moments later to pick him up, he was found unconscious in the sea.

In Shrewsbury, police launched a helicopter search for a car seen near the river at a point where it was thought to have become more than 20ft deep. Workmen at Ludlow

Power price rise to outstrip inflation

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

Domestic electricity consumers face price increases slightly above the current rate of inflation from April, the Government announced yesterday as it gave further details of the £15 billion privatization of the industry.

In the following two years — the politically sensitive run-up to the next general election — rises will be pegged to the overall increase in prices.

The package, unveiled in the Commons by Mr John Wakeham, the Secretary of State for Energy, reassured Conservative MPs worried that the sale would be accompanied by much bigger bills.

Labour insisted that prices did not need to increase at all because of reductions in the price of coal. Mr Frank Dobson, its chief energy spokesman, maintained that the industry was being fattened up for privatization. He also

criticized the government decision to abandon plans to reduce acid rain through a £2 billion programme to clean up power station emissions of sulphur dioxide by fitting "scrubbers".

Mr Wakeham replied that the Government was committed to achieving the targets set out in a European convention on pollution control.

Industrial consumers of electricity such as British Steel benefit from their electricity charges being pegged to the rate of inflation in 1990-91. After that they must negotiate terms.

Mr Wakeham said he expected many big customers to enjoy price reductions as they benefit from the effects of competition.

A fixed-rate mortgage at 12.25%, or at 13.4%.

Which would you prefer?

13.4%
Typical APR (for 12.25%)

14.3%
Typical APR (for 13.4%)

The question isn't as stupid as it seems. Certainly a fixed-rate mortgage is an excellent way to cut your outgoings — and ease your mind. But the mortgage that suits you best won't necessarily be the one that offers the lowest interest rate. 12.25% (13.4% APR), for example, is a very low rate indeed. But with this mortgage, the lender will ask you to take out an endowment policy. Our 13.4% (14.3% APR) mortgage, on the other hand, is available on a pension basis as well. We can arrange other kinds of fixed-rate mortgages too — fixed at a variety of rates, for a variety of periods from two to 25 years, and offering a variety of repayment methods. The point that we're making, of course, is that you need expert and impartial advice just as much as you need a fixed-rate mortgage. And that's where Britain's leading independent mortgage adviser comes in. For written details, call John Charcol, a licensed credit broker, on (01) 589 7080. Or write to us at Mercury House, 195 Knightsbridge, (FIMBRA) London SW7 1RE.

JOHN CHARCOL
Talk about a better mortgage.

01-589-7080

The products advertised here are not regulated by the Financial Services Act 1986 and the rules made for the protection of investors by that Act will not apply to them. Credit broker fees may be charged depending on the type of product and credit period, and insurance may also be required. Your home is at risk if you do not keep up repayments on a mortgage or other loan secured on it.

Snowfall adds to misery of high winds and rain

By Libby Jukes and Ray Clancy

Snowfalls in the North of England and Scotland yesterday added to the problems caused by the high winds and torrential rain that continued to plague much of the country.

Avalanche warnings and high winds in the Scottish mountains prevented skiers from enjoying fresh snowfalls of more than 2in in places. The weathermen warned that stormy, unsettled conditions will persist for the next few days, with milder weather not expected until Friday.

Snow caused road closures on the A66 trans-Pennine route between Penrith and Scotch Corner and many high passes in the Lake District were

also affected. Rail services between London and Glasgow were disrupted when trees brought down power lines near Beattock, Dumfries and Galloway, and police warned drivers of high-sided vehicles on the M6 in Cumbria of high winds and snow.

Conditions on roads in the North deteriorated overnight and the police warned that snow could turn to ice, making driving treacherous.

In mid-Wales, heavy snowfalls blocked the A44 trunk road at Eisteddfod Gurig on the Powys-Dyfed border near Aberystwyth. Elsewhere, huge waves whipped up by high winds flooded homes around Colwyn Bay,

Cwydd, and took the roof off a chapel in Camarthen. Dyfed. The railway line to Cardiff was cut off by further flooding of the Severn near Gloucester.

An RAF helicopter winchman was in intensive care in Gwynedd Hospital last night after a mishap on exercise. The winchman, from RAF Valley, Anglesey, had been lowered by helicopter to a ledge on Holy Island, near Holyhead. When the aircraft returned moments later to pick him up, he was found unconscious in the sea.

In Shrewsbury, police launched a helicopter search for a car seen near the river at a point where it was thought to have become more than 20ft deep. Workmen at Ludlow

Castle, Shropshire, jumped to safety moments before a section of the 30ft, 14th-century perimeter wall collapsed, demolishing their scaffolding.

More than 120,000 homes in Somerset lost their electricity supply when the Hinkley Point nuclear power station was automatically closed down by sensors, because of the danger of salt spray from the Bristol Channel blowing on to a nearby sub-station.

Storm force winds battered the South-west and South of England, with gusts of more than 80mph. Extra engineers were called in to restore power to 2,000 people in Devon and 6,000 in Cornwall and a passenger ferry sank at its moorings on the Teign, Devon.

Law Commission review

Rape in marriage could be made a criminal offence

By Nigel Williamson, Political Staff

The Government announced a review of the law yesterday to consider making rape within marriage a criminal offence.

The review, which will be carried out by the Law Commission, was announced in a written Parliamentary answer by Mr John Patten, minister of state at the Home Office.

A consultation paper is expected to be ready early next year. Mr Patten said, however, that the Government "will consider the conclusions most carefully" before taking any decision to seek changes in the law.

The issue was last examined by the Government in 1984 when the Criminal Law Revision Committee concluded by a narrow majority that a change in the law was not desirable as it raised issues about the nature of marriage and about violence in the domestic context which went beyond the scope of the criminal law.

Under guidelines first set down in 1936 it has long been held in law that marriage in itself constituted consent to sexual intercourse.

However, a Scottish High Court ended husbands' legal immunity north of the Border last year when it ruled that a man could be charged with raping his wife when the two were living together. The decision was upheld on appeal and was widely welcomed by women's groups.

The Government's review will now examine the case for bringing the law in England

and Wales into line with Scotland.

Mr Patten said that the decision to look at the question again had come out of the ministerial group on women's issues, of which he is chairman. The group has been concerned with an increase in domestic violence.

Mr Patten said: "The Government believes that legislation in this area should proceed from a broad measure

A change in the law to make boys aged 14 legally liable for rape is proposed in a private member's Bill due before the Commons this week (Frances Gibb writes). Sir William Shelton, Tory MP for Streatham, south London, has put forward the measure, which has Home Office support, as part of his Bill to tighten the law on kerb-crawling. He said he had come across a number of cases where boys under 14 had attacked women.

of agreement after careful examination of the wider issues".

Changes in the law on rape in marriage would end one of the anomalies of English law under which the police can prosecute a husband for indecent assault yet are powerless to deal with the more serious crime of rape (Our Crime Correspondent writes).

According to Women Against Rape, the English legal system lumps behind a number of other countries. Several Scandinavian countries, the Soviet Union and

some states in the United States and Australia already have legislation against rape within marriage.

The organization said that, at present, the only chance for a wife to bring a prosecution is if she is legally separated from her husband or there is an order on the husband against contact with his wife. A West London court sentenced a man to five years in 1987 for a rape which involved a breach of such a court order.

Yesterday, both women's groups and police who specialize in domestic violence, welcomed the possibility of change in the English system but warned that a new law could reveal a powerful undertow of cases.

No one knows exactly how many cases might be prompted by legal change but few doubt the number could be sizable.

Women Against Rape produced a survey in 1985 of London women showing that one in seven said they were raped in marriage. Many never came forward because of the problems of leaving home and supporting their children.

About 200 of the 286 women dealt with over the past 10 months by one of the new London police centres specializing in domestic violence have mentioned rape.

One investigator said yesterday that a new law may well open the floodgates of cases putting greater pressure on the rape centres now being operated by most police forces.

Himalayas trip on a penny-farthing

MICHAEL POWELL



Mr Paul Graham, a lawyer, setting off from Westminster Bridge yesterday on the penny-farthing that he will ride over the Himalayas. The ride proper will begin from Delhi on Friday, finishing 10

days and 600km later in a Tibetan New Year audience with the Dalai Lama at his residence in Dharmasala. For Mr Graham, aged 47, from Barnes, west London, it will be his first trip to India and he

hopes to raise £20,000 for the British charity Help Tibet to maintain and equip health clinics serving both Indians and an estimated 100,000 Tibetan refugees in remote areas of the Indian Himalayas.

Win helps marketing of ski suit

Three winners shared yesterday's Portfolio Platinum prize of £2,000, including an inventor who will use his prize to market high-technology ski suits.

Mr David Conway, of Worthing, West Sussex; Mr Sybil Williams, of Weymouth, Dorset; and Mr Alan Vero, of Surbiton, Surrey, will each receive £666.66.

Mr Williams, a retired scientist who has invented a stretch fabric for ski suits, yachting clothing and possibly diving gear, said he plans to produce 50 garments in the next few weeks.

"The fabric contains Lycra which is very expensive so I might use the money to help with production," he said.

Mr Conway, who has read *The Times* for over 25 years, said he will buy his wife an extra-large valentine and take her out for dinner.

Lady Thynne 'forced to stack bottles'

Suzanne, Lady Valentine Thynne, suffered a severe back injury after being forced to stack cases of champagne on shelves, the High Court was told yesterday.

Lady Thynne, aged 46, was working as a catering supervisor for G T Management Ltd, investment managers, of 8 Devonshire Square, London, when she suffered a prolapsed disc, the court was told.

Lady Thynne alleges the company was negligent and in breach of its duty by requiring her to push heavy trolleys and lift loads likely to cause injury. The allegations are denied. The case continues today.

Man freed as trip to see witness is refused

By Mark Soaster

A man charged with rape was freed yesterday after a Metropolitan Police detective said financial restrictions prevented him from going to Glasgow to find the alleged victim.

Judge Lambrey freed Kenneth Hamilton, aged 30, who had been in custody since his arrest last August, after Detective Constable Michael Fairies said he would have had a better chance of finding the victim if he had been allowed to go to Scotland. However, the cost had not been sanctioned.

Mr Brian Warner, for the prosecution, said: "It fits in with lots of monetary restrictions on police officers at present." The judge said: "It seems very odd to me that the police cannot go to make inquiries unless there is an authorization for the cost."

He turned down a prosecution application for a further delay in the case against Mr Hamilton, of north London, after it was adjourned last month because the alleged victim did not appear.

Mr Colin Campbell, for the defence, said no evidence was offered against Mr Hamilton when he pleaded not guilty to burglary with an offensive weapon, a knife, and intent to rape a university student, aged 20, at a flat at Tottenham, north London, last August. He also denied indecent assault.

The judge was told the student moved to Glasgow soon after the alleged incident and left a forwarding address. She then moved again and failed to keep in contact with the officer in charge.

The judge said the student would have to accept a substantial part of the blame for failing to keep in touch.

The Metropolitan Police said last night it would not have been "operationally constructive" to send a detective as there was little prospect of the witness being found.

PC says inspector took part in race abuse campaign

By John Young

A police inspector who spent 10 years in the Royal and Diplomatic Protection Service and was at one time responsible for guarding the Princess Royal, was accused yesterday of taking part in a campaign of racial abuse against a black constable.

An industrial tribunal in Ashford, Kent, was told that between Christmas 1988 and April 26, 1989, while both Inspector Ian Thirkell and Police Constable William



Inspector Thirkell: Accused of racial discrimination

Halliday were based at Orpington, Kent, the latter was subjected to racial abuse at least a dozen times a day. Mr Thirkell is accused, together with the Metropolitan Police, of racial discrimination.

PC Halliday, aged 30, told the tribunal that he joined the police in August 1978 and began work at Orpington in June 1985. Until December 1988 he had been the target of some racial jokes but they were generally light-hearted.

However, from about Christmas 1988 certain people had begun saying to him "hello coon" or "hello nigger". He had been called "a spade" and "blackie". He told the tribunal this would happen about a dozen times during an eight-hour duty.

"There were also a lot of references to my new child, whether or not I would bring him up to snatch white ladies' handbags, or even to rape white women," he said.

PC Halliday said three people were responsible for most of these remarks; one was Mr Thirkell. Asked by his counsel, Mr Kurtun Menon, how he felt about it, PC Halliday said he was very surprised by the frequency of the abuse.

Mr Menon said language used by Mr Thirkell and some colleagues went far beyond banter. PC Halliday eventually made a complaint to Scotland Yard on the advice of the Police Federation.

The case had been brought before the tribunal because it appeared that all internal procedures had been exhausted. Mr Menon said he doubted whether there had been any serious investigation; Scotland Yard officers had not only not pursued the complaints procedure but they had also failed to carry out any proper investigation.

Mr Menon said that on the night of April 25 last year, after PC Halliday had endured four months of abuse, he was working with a constable in a radio car. They agreed to take a tea-break at Chislehurst station and during that break the other man said: "You are not drinking tea while you're in my car."

He replied that he would do so whenever he liked, at which point the other constable stormed out and was later nowhere to be seen.

PC Halliday returned to Orpington to report the incident and was told that he had taken too much time off. Mr Thirkell refused to listen to his explanations. He was taken off car duties and put on routine station officer work which was far less interesting. The hearing continues.



The Frederick Forsyth style is unique.

Frederick Forsyth is a member of that very exclusive group of authors whose books you will find on sale in virtually every country you care to visit.

And not only on sale but, year in year out, proving to be enduringly popular.

Classics of their kind.

"The Day of the Jackal" made Forsyth one of the world's best-selling authors. Subsequently "The Odessa File," "The Dogs of War," "The Devil's Alternative" and "The Fourth Protocol" have each proved to be a phenomenal success.

Yet it is quality rather than quantity that has always been Forsyth's primary concern. Just a handful of books is hardly a prolific output, but read one and you will realise why.

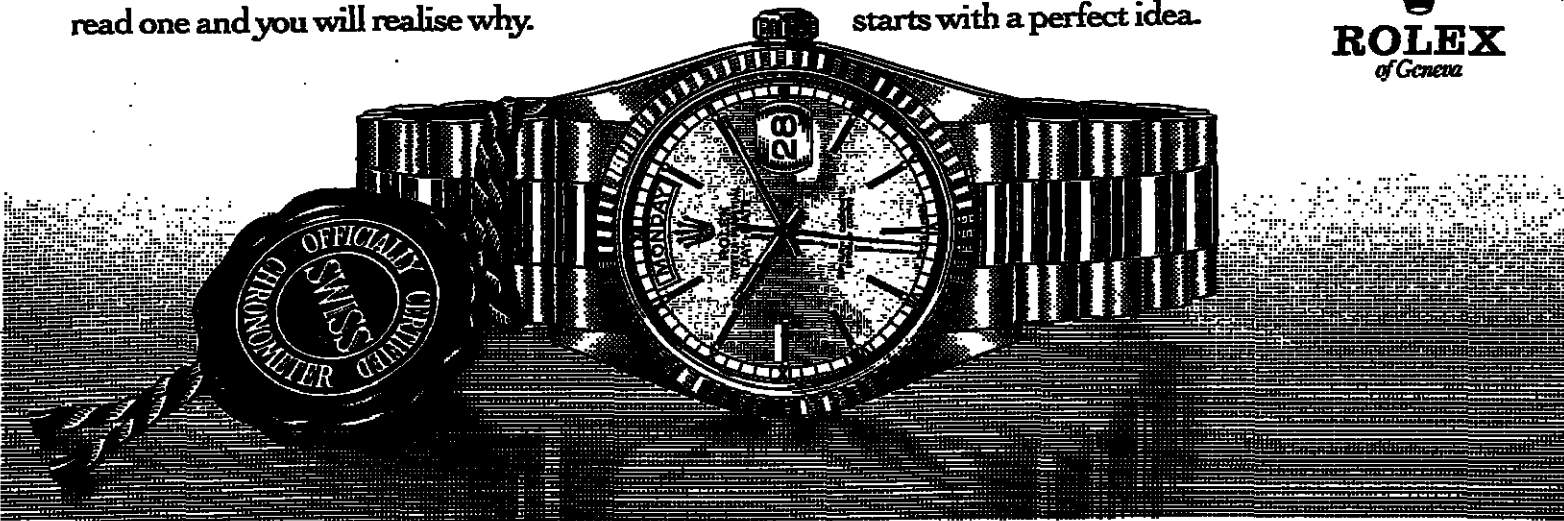
The Forsyth style - a blend of uncannily authentic detail, superb story-telling, a meticulously constructed plot - takes a long, long time.

Quality is also the principle behind Frederick Forsyth's watch. A Rolex Oyster Day-Date Chronometer in 18ct. gold.

"For me, this is simply the best watch there is," he says. "It's very tough, waterproof, and completely reliable so I never have to take it off whatever I'm doing. It's also very well designed and obviously a great deal of time, care and effort have gone into its construction. That's why the idea works so supremely well."

And, as Frederick Forsyth knows very well indeed, a famous, international success starts with a perfect idea.

ROLEX of Geneva



THE ROLEX DAY-DATE CHRONOMETER IN 18CT. GOLD WITH THE PRESIDENT BRACELET. ALSO AVAILABLE IN 18CT. WHITE GOLD OR IN PLATINUM.

Only a select group of jewellers sell Rolex watches. For the address of your nearest Rolex jeweller, and for further information on the complete range of Rolex watches, write to: The Rolex Watch Company Limited, 1 Green Street, London W1Y 4JY or telephone 01-629 5071.

The Archers Pargetter 'leaves' Ambridge

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

Nigel Pargetter, the wimpish Horray Henry of *The Archers*, has been written out of the long-running radio series for the second time in three years.

The last episode featuring the chinless wonder of Ambridge will be heard tomorrow - on Valentine's Day - just four months after his engagement to the flighty Lizzy Archer was called off.

Nigel Carrington, the actor who has tried to make Nigel less jolly and silly, was told of the character's demise several days after recording what will be his last words in the Radio 4 soap opera.

In a letter to the actor, Miss Ruth Patterson, editor of *The Archers*, said: "I am afraid

that after long and hard consideration, I have decided we no longer need the part of Nigel Pargetter in the programme.

"I stress it is because the character has become a luxury I can no longer afford and I have no intention of recasting. Nigel will simply be unheard."

Mr Carrington is one of four actors in *The Archers* who contracted hepatitis at Broadcasting House, London, in May 1987 after eating infected food at a radio award presentation. He received compensation of £2,500.

In 1986, proposals to drop Nigel Pargetter, after the move of the actor then playing the part to ITV's *Crossroads*, led to considerable criticism

and he was reintroduced. Miss Patterson said yesterday: "Elizabeth and Nigel's marriage was not to be. As a result, Nigel has dropped into the background. The character has not been killed off. He will be referred to on and off but he has joined the ranks of the unheard of Ambridge."

"The character was a luxury once he was no longer interacting with Elizabeth. I wanted other people to interact with her instead."

"He was a tremendously fun character and he has served a purpose but characters come and go. If the cast remained exactly the same that limits the production and the possible scale of the story line."

Pilots say examiner shortage at CAA is hitting airlines

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

A shortage of Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) examiners is preventing more than 200 new pilots from taking their examinations to become commercial airline pilots, it was claimed yesterday.

The authority employs only 16 examiners throughout Britain. The Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators said yesterday that pilots who have completed their training are having to wait four months before they are tested for their Commercial Pilot Licence and instrument ratings. The delay is causing airlines big problems as they are trying to make up for a shortage of pilots.

The guild, whose members include more than 1,300 airline pilots, has demanded that military and civilian instructors should be allowed to conduct the examinations to ease the delays.

"Many schools have slowed down the rate at which they train pilots as a result of the shortage of examiners," Mr Fred Stringer, the master of the guild, said. "Most of those training to become civil pilots have to pay for their own training and this can cost up to £60,000. It is, therefore, completely unacceptable if these individuals are unable to be tested by the CAA for their licence or instrument rating."

"The reason for these delays is given as a shortage of examiners and although the

authority is trying to recruit more examiners, we believe they are severely constrained by the salary they can offer."

The authority has recently announced a 50 per cent increase in the cost of the final examination, from £195 to £300, in spite of the delays. The guild said this was "totally unacceptable".

"We find the authority to be most inefficient and the charges made for their services to be excessive," Mr Stringer said. "Urgent action is required to improve the efficiency of the CAA as a whole and the licensing department in particular. It could be that

Many schools have slowed down rate of training

with the limited finances available to the authority improvements can be only minimal. If this is the case, then we suggest that the time has come to consider the privatization of the CAA."

The authority said last night that it was planning to recruit an extra six examiners to cope with the sudden demand.

"We are doing everything we can to cut back on the delays," a spokesman said. "Part of the problem is that many candidates are put in for the tests before they are ready and we now have a failure rate of over 50 per cent. We have

written to all the flying schools pointing out that it is in everyone's interest if only those who are ready for the final examination are entered.

"We also believe that, at least at the beginning of their career, pilots are subjected to the very stringent tests of a full CAA examiner."

The authority handled 4,000 tests last year and it expects to deal with more than 5,000 this year.

The designer of a "unique" prototype aircraft destroyed by arsonists won £236,345 damages in the High Court yesterday against the owner of the hangar in which it was kept.

The versatile LDA-500 Boxer, designed to fly cheaply and safely in the Third World, was developed by Mr David Lockspeiser, a former RAF pilot.

He hoped the project would attract business ventures, but the aircraft was destroyed with nine others when intruders used aviation fuel to set fire to the hangar at Old Sarum Airfield, Salisbury, Wiltshire in January 1987.

Mr Lockspeiser sued the hangar owner, Brooklands Aircraft Company, claiming it had agreed to insure the Boxer while it worked on it for him. Brooklands had denied any such agreement.

Judge Hamerton, QC, gave Brooklands leave to appeal against the award.

Divers stumble on wreck's porcelain treasure



Above, Mr Bob Gibson, left, and other divers with some of the porcelain from the Duke of Buccleuch, below, in its heyday.



By Sarah Jane Checkland
Art Market Correspondent

Members of an amateur Sussex-based diving team may have made their fortune by stumbling on a 101-year-old shipwreck in the Solent.

The Duke of Buccleuch, a four-masted iron steamship, sank on February 6, 1889, after colliding with a sailing ship two miles off Littlehampton on its way from Antwerp to Calcutta.

All 48 hands were lost, but according to the findings of the five-man team, the vessel's cargo of hand-painted Belgian porcelain survived.

A number of pieces in the hold of the vessel, which is lying on the sea bed at a depth of 58 metres, are being sent for valuation.

"We came across it by chance, coming back from another wreck site. We put a magnetometer in the water on the way back and it picked up what looked like a wreck," Mr Bob Gibson, a team member, said.

The discovery of the ship, which was owned by British Ducal Lines, throws new light on the controversy surrounding its sinking. According to records quoting survivors of the other vessel, the Vandalia, it was holed after ramming the ship in darkness.

However, Mr Gibson said the state of the wreck, which is resting on its keel, did not support the story. "If it hit the ship head on, you could expect some damage to the front. There was none to be seen and all you could see was a massive great break in the side."

"So we have a feeling that the sailing ship came along and hit the Duke, sending it straight to the bottom," Mr Gibson said. He said further dives could be risky because of dangerous tidal flows.

Gummer will face hostile farmers

By Michael Hornsby, Agriculture Correspondent

Angry farmers are expected to give Mr John Gummer, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, a rough ride when he defends government policy at the annual meeting of the National Farmers' Union (NFI) in London today.

Mr Gummer, who will speak after Sir Simon Gourlay, president of the union, has delivered his "state of the industry" address, has agreed to spend almost an hour answering questions from the floor, which are likely to reflect a widespread belief among farmers that they are getting a raw deal.

The annual Government review of agriculture, published last week, showed farming income rose by 8 per cent in real terms last year and a further recovery was likely this year. The NFI said, however, that

this had to be set against a 27 per cent fall in 1988.

In a letter to 200 MPs, Sir Simon claimed that in spite of the improvement in income, the underlying decline in the industry's profitability was continuing at an "unsustainable" rate of 9 per cent a year.

Mr Sean Rickard, the NFI's chief economist, said that while the level of investment in farming had held steady or risen slightly in most European Community member countries, it had fallen by 45 per cent in Britain since the mid-1980s.

"We are in the critical run-up to the completion of the single market in 1992, and if we are to be able to compete once all the barriers come down, investment plans and resources need to be available now," Mr Rickard said. Farm-

ers are particularly aggrieved by what they regard as Mr Gummer's failure to fight strongly enough in Brussels for a devaluation of the green pound, the over-valued exchange rate used in EC agricultural trade.

It is estimated that a full devaluation of the green pound now, to bring it in line with its market value, would push up British farmgate prices by about 8 per cent and give farmers a 40 per cent rise in income over a full year.

Mr Gummer's problem is that devaluation of the green pound would also raise consumer food prices by about 1.2 per cent at a time when the Government is seeking to bring inflation down. It is also resisted by other EC member states.

Mr Rickard said: "A deval-

uation is often presented as a windfall gain for British farmers. We argue that it is just a catching-up process. We would simply get the price rises we would have received gradually as the pound weakened against other currencies if the green exchange rate had not existed."

Agriculture has been buffeted over the past year by scares over salmonella in eggs and poultry, listeria in dairy products, and alleged misuse of pesticides. Beef and dairy farmers were also hit by lead contamination of imported animal feed.

In addition, there is concern about the possibility of compulsory restraints on use of chemical fertiliser as one of various measures that may have to be taken to reduce nitrate pollution of water.

Medals recall heroine of resistance

SALEROOM
by Sarah Jane Checkland
Art Market Correspondent

The best French resistance group of medals likely to come on the market is being offered at Christie's in London.

The medals, including the George Medal, the Legion d'honneur and the Croix de Guerre, were awarded to Mme Berthe Fraser (1894-1956), the heroine who successfully smuggled through German lines the British secret agent Wing-Commander Forest Frederick Edward Yeo-Thomas (1901-1964), or "The White Rabbit", thereby "saving London from being blitzed off the map", as Mr James Hammond, Christie's expert, puts it.

Setting an estimate has proved difficult. "Because we have never had a really important resistance group before, we have no idea what it will sell for," Mr Hammond

appointed pick-up point.

Undeterred, the ingenious Mme Fraser organized a mock funeral, complete with undertakers, hearse and coffin. Yeo-Thomas's documents, known as the Parsifal Mail, were concealed in the coffin while the White Rabbit hid beside it under the flowers. After a tense moment when the cortege was questioned by a German patrol, the procession was allowed to pass, and the agent continued home with his precious parcel.

Mme Fraser, who was later captured, tortured and sentenced to death, but refused to betray her fellows and was saved by the Allies in 1944. However, her health had been damaged, and she died in 1956.

The group is the highlight in a collection of 34 George Medals amassed by the British

collector Mr W H Fevery and to be offered on March 20. With 1990 the 50th anniversary of both the George Medal and the Blitz, he hopes it is the right time to sell.

Dog lovers still in the mood for canine delights after the end of the Crufts Dog Show last Sunday, hastened to Bonhams for its annual auction of dog art yesterday. Two Red Setter fanciers hailed it out for a solemn portrait of a dog, "Strelley Performer" by the English 19th/20th century artist Henry Crowther, until the hammer came down at £6,000 (estimate £600 to £900).

An anonymous buyer paid £420 (within estimate) for an upholstered, cushioned and tasseled dog kennel based on one made for Queen Marie-Antoinette's lap dog.

Mobile communication systems

British operators 'face losing out'

By Nick Nuttall, Technology Correspondent

British companies operating in the field of mobile communications may lose out to foreign suppliers through intense competitiveness and lack of co-operation, according to researchers at the University of Manchester.

Experts at the university's Institute of Science and Technology claim that the public is rightly confused by the plethora of mobile communication services on offer - car telephones, paging systems and telephones that people can carry around. The confusion may result in people ignoring the new technologies altogether, the experts say.

In a report compiled for the institute's school of management, Professor Dale Littler and Miss Fiona Leverick say that, unless action is taken, the only beneficiaries of the intense competition will be global suppliers, mainly the Japanese.

They have singled out "telepoint" or CT2 as symptomatic. Launched last year, telepoint involves the use of cordless handsets that enable people to dial anywhere in the world. However, customers cannot receive incoming calls.

Four consortia were li-

censed by the Government to operate the system: Phonepoint, mainly a British Telecom venture; Zonophone, principally owned by Ferranti; Mercury Callpoint, a joint venture between Mercury, Motorola and Shaye; and BYPS, a consortium of Barclays Bank, Phillips and Shell. As yet, only Zonophone, Motorola and Phonepoint, have officially launched services.

Professor Littler and Miss Leverick claim that the development of the four services has been a shambles. Telepoint requires the setting up of base stations in convenient areas such as railway stations, high streets and airports. "What is clear is that

all four consortia have been unable to set up base stations as quickly as they would have liked. Without a significant number of these, telepoint phones are as good as useless," the report notes.

The researchers also denounce the way each of the consortia has established differing technologies, making all four systems incompatible. It has been agreed that telepoint companies must resolve this divergence by 1990. Yet, the report says, "none of the consortia can provide a satisfactory explanation of how this will be done, although customers are reassured that telepoint systems will still support the obsoles-

cent original handsets".

The report states: "There is a strong case for collaboration between the four operators. Unless this occurs, all four will find themselves losing out to alternative products."

"Unfortunately, although this may seem the sensible solution, the Government will not permit it in the interests of competition."

The researchers accuse the Government of striving to open up the mobile communications market too fast. Almost as soon as they had licensed telepoint, the Department of Trade and Industry, announced the licensing of Personal Communication Network (PCN) operators whose wares are expected no later than 1993. PCNs are being billed as a cheap, reliable, two-way personal communications system.

The report also accuses operators of "diving into the field" without any consideration for what the public wants.

Instead of taking a risk that they may be left with outmoded technology, the researchers say, "it is far more likely that the customer will postpone purchase".

Losing their hearts to tune of £70m

By Robin Young

Britons are in the course of spending over £70 million just to show they love each other. It no longer costs little to deliver that simple message: "I love you."

To get the point across this year, more than £15 million is being expended on some 16 million valentine cards at an average cost of 95p each.

Another £1.04 million is spent on postage stamps to send six million of the cards by post.

Then there is the £50 million lavished on presentation boxes of chocolates. Add smaller amounts for further gifts of jewellery, perfumes and toiletries and for the love-dovey announcements that will fill thousands of columns inches in newspapers, then tot up the price of

candlelit dinners at home or in restaurants, and the total approaches £1.50 for every man, woman and child in the country.

According to the Greeting Card and Calendar Association, the biggest spenders on valentine cards are men, for whom this is the biggest card-buying time of the year. It is still women, though, who buy most of the cards - 56 per cent of the total.

Mr Stuart King of the association, says that traditional romance always sells best. In spite of some rise in demand for humorous and vulgar cards, hearts and flowers predominate.

Mr King said: "My own company, Carlton Cards, and the industry as a whole, expect a continued trend towards

more expensive romantic cards, especially favoured by men in the higher income groups."

The 16 to 30 age group are the biggest buyers, but almost a quarter of cards are sold to the over-45s.

The number of cards sold increased from 13 million in 1987 to 15 million in 1988 and 15.2 million in 1989. The publishers are confident it will rise again.

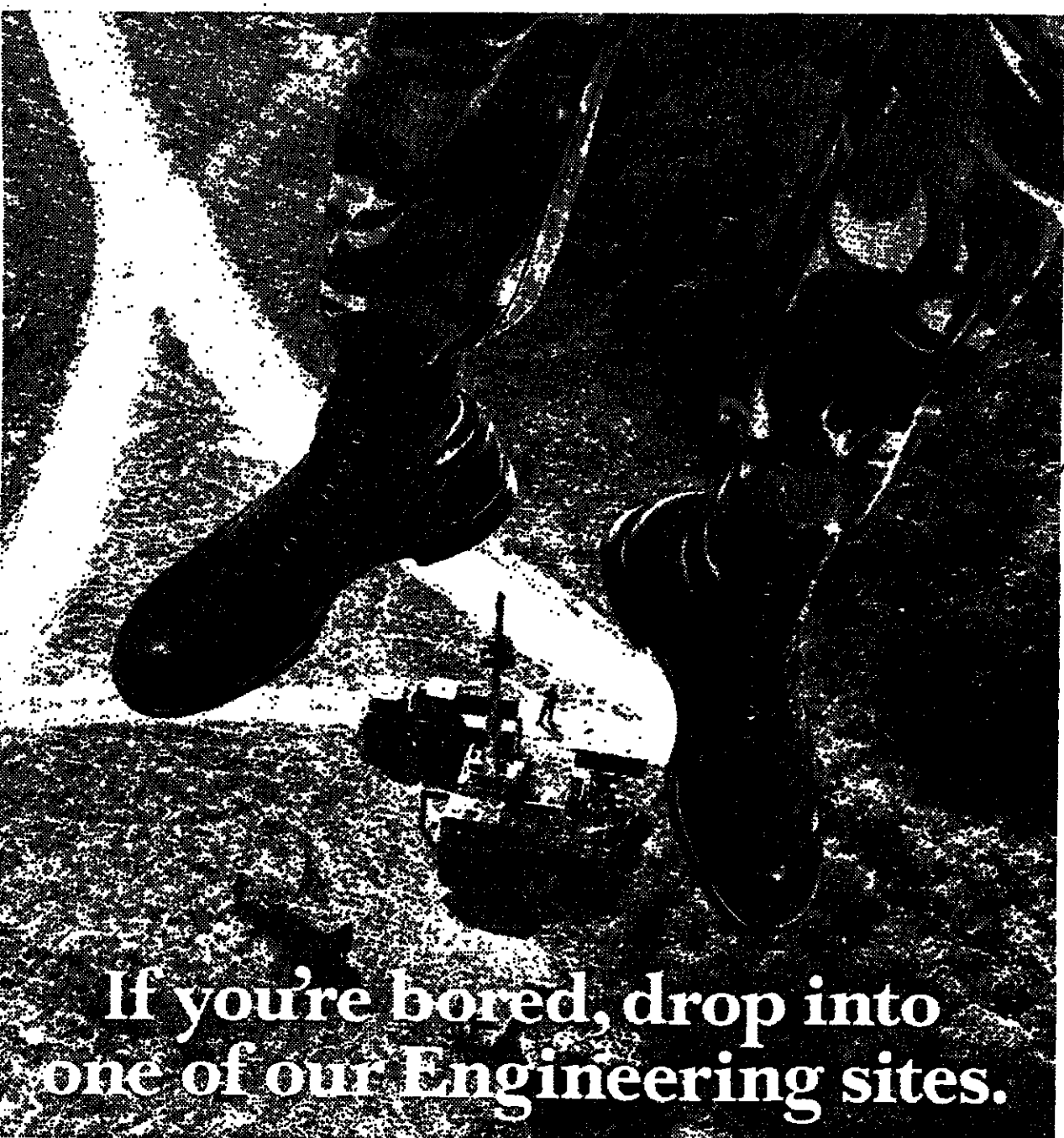
"The older people get the more the likelihood that they sign their valentines," Mr King said. "They tend to be less bashful."

According to the Royal Mail, though, it is those who live in the north who are most likely to post their cards, preferring the anonymity of the post. Mr Bill Cockburn,

the managing director of the Royal Mail, says that more valentine cards per head are posted in the north of England than in any other area, but that the traffic is growing everywhere by about 7 per cent a year.

The Royal Mail is to encourage that trend this year with its new first class greeting stamps, featuring such love-sick motifs as the man in the moon, a clown, a teddy bear, the Queen of Hearts, and comedian Stan Laurel.

Britain's enthusiasm for Valentine's Day - named, it is said, for a saint who fell in love with his executioner's blind daughter - is exceeded only by that of amorous Americans. The cards and chocolates they buy are calculated to cost £446 million.



If you're bored, drop into one of our Engineering sites.

Technical skills are the very least of the qualifications you'll require as an engineer in the Army.

Our problems have to be solved as they arise in the field - which is (often literally) a thousand miles from the cosy laboratory conditions of the academic purist.

We're looking for practical people who have imagination and initiative.

Whichever corps you choose - the Royal Engineers, the Royal Signals or the Royal Electrical

and Mechanical Engineers - by the age of 24 you could find yourself technically and financially responsible for £100 million-worth of equipment.

You will also be responsible for every aspect of your soldiers' lives.

For it is you who will supervise their military training, look after their personal welfare and command them in battle.

If that is a challenge you respond to, please write for more information to Lt. Col. David Goddard,

Freeport, Army Officer Entry, Dept. 0824, Bristol BS1 3TL, or telephone free 0800 555 555 (twenty-four hour answering service).

Full name _____
Address _____
Postcode _____
Date of birth _____
Nationality _____
Army Officer

UK to back international pact for total ban on PCBs

By Michael McCarthy, Environment Correspondent

Britain is to join eight other European countries in banning the toxic chemicals PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls). The decision will be made at the Third North Sea Conference, which takes place at The Hague in three weeks time.

Mr Chris Patten, the Secretary of State for the Environment, will agree to call in and destroy all remaining British stocks of the chemicals.

Thousands of tonnes are still in use as coolants in electrical equipment, in spite of a ban on their manufacture since the 1970s.

However, if Mr Patten is to counter Britain's reputation as the dirty man of Europe, he will have to act decisively over the dumping, in the North Sea, of sewage sludge and industrial waste, which all other countries taking part in the conference have phased out.

Britain permits water companies to dump nine million tonnes of sewage sludge contaminated with chemical effluent into the North Sea every year. Industry is allowed to dump more than three million tonnes of waste, even though Britain signed an

agreement at the Second North Sea Conference in London in 1987 to stop dumping by the end of last December.

Today, Mr Patten is to meet the conference host, Mrs Johanna Matj-Weggen, the Dutch Transport Minister, and Britain's dumping is likely to be high on the agenda.

The conference, which takes place on March 7 and 8, is expected to touch on the epidemic of distemper virus that wiped out 70 per cent of the North Sea's common seals in 1988, even though a direct link between pollution and the virus has not been established.

PCBs, which accumulate in the fatty tissues of marine mammals such as seals and dolphins, impairing fertility and damaging the immune system, will be phased out in all the countries taking part in the conference: Britain, France, Belgium, West Germany, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and The Netherlands.

There is, however, disagreement over dates. Norway, Denmark and Sweden want

PCBs to be phased out by 1995, but West Germany, Belgium, The Netherlands and Switzerland are pressing for 2000. Britain and France say it is impracticable before 2005, although Britain's position is not thought to be rigid.

The measure is also likely to provoke controversy as it may involve the destruction of the remaining stocks of PCBs by incineration.

This approach, supported by Britain in preference to long-term storage, may prove unpopular with people who live near the industrial incinerators, like that operated in South Wales by the waste management company Rechm.

Some environmentalists claim that burning PCBs produces dangerous by-products. Britain will support two other initiatives to protect the North Sea at the conference.

One will be a memorandum of understanding about the protection of dolphins and porpoises - a Swedish initiative that puts wildlife on the North Sea Conference agenda for the first time.

The other will be a Norwegian proposal to ban certain

oil-based lubricants used in drilling oil and gas wells. As a result of their use, British oil rigs alone produce thousands of tonnes of toxic mud that fall to the seabed.

However, it is Britain's continued use of the North Sea as a dump for sewage sludge and industrial waste that will present the biggest challenge to Mr Patten, who committed himself last November to dispelling Britain's image as the dirty man of Europe. He would nail the lie, he said, "not by words, but by actions".

Britain's failure to meet the deadline for the ending of waste dumping on December 31, 1989, and the lack of a clear target date - reflected in the recent application for three dumping licences to be extended into 1990 - has aroused resentment in other countries.

The British position has long been that there is no proof that the dumping has caused any damage to the marine environment. Other countries have preferred "the precautionary principle" - not taking the risk.

body else. From my own perspective of things like elephants, unless ordinary people become involved, there won't be elephants in the future."

Written nominations for the award of up to 250 words, typewritten if possible, should be sent to *The Times/PAI Environment Award*, PO Box 486, 1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN, to arrive by last post on Friday, March 9. Photographs, which are non-returnable, will help. A daytime telephone number for people nominated is essential.

Humphrey walks into a job

JULIAN HERBERT



Humphrey, the latest feline member of the Downing Street staff, being introduced outside the Cabinet Office yesterday by Mr Kevin Lapwood, a civil servant. The black and white tom was taken to have volunteered his services to the Cabinet Office when he walked in off the street. He was named by staff after Sir Humphrey, the permanent secretary of Yes,

Minister fame, and given his own basket in the office of Mr Lapwood, an accommodation officer. Humphrey's main duty is to help keep down the mice population in the Downing Street complex. He joins an illustrious list of cats who have served the nation, the most famous being the late Wilberforce, a mouse-catcher at 10 Downing Street for 14 years.

Canal plan 'a threat to largest bat colony'

By Libby Jukes

Two conservation groups are at loggerheads over plans for the development of the once-derelect Basingstoke canal, which the Nature Conservancy Council fears could force Britain's largest bat colony out of house and home.

The Greywell Tunnel, at Greywell, Hampshire, was blocked by a clay slip in 1932 and is used for winter hibernation by 2,000 bats. They are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act from being disturbed, captured or killed, with a £2,000 fine for each animal affected.

The NCC says that the Surrey and Hampshire Canal Preservation Society's planned re-opening of the tunnel would cause inhospitable draughts, and has told the county council that giving consent for renovation would amount to an eviction order for the bats.

The NCC also believes that increased recreational use of the canal between Greywell and West Byfleet has reduced rare plants such as the water violet and the lesser bladderwort to the point of extinction over the past two years. It plans to notify 25 miles out of the 32-mile stretch as a Site of Special Scientific Interest.

Mr Andy Byfield, of the NCC, said the area had been recognized as being of botanical importance for over 40 years. "There is a critical level beyond which boating is no longer compatible with wildlife preservation."

The dispute could end in the High Court if discussions between the NCC and the society over a compromise "zoned use" plan fail, and the society invokes its right of access to the tunnel under the 200-year-old Basingstoke Navigation Act.

Conservation leaders praise award scheme

Two of the world's most celebrated environmentalists spoke yesterday of the value of the £5,000 Environment Award, run jointly by *The Times* and BBC Radio Four's *PM* programme, after its launch for 1990 (Our Environment Correspondent writes).

Sir Crispin Tickell, the British Ambassador to the United Nations, who is thought to have played a key part in Mrs Thatcher's conversion to environmental concern, joined with Dr Richard Leakey, the director of the Kenya Wildlife



ordinary people. "Although environmental issues are global in scope, they also affect every individual," Sir Crispin, one of the award judges, said.

"I welcome a competition which brings home to ordinary people the problems of the environment and the responsibilities which we all carry."

Dr Leakey, who is to present the award on May 9 at Broadcasting House, said: "It is ordinary people that have the future of the environment more in their hands than any

National Curriculum policy Plea to get classics back on timetable

By Douglas Broom, Education Reporter

Classicists called on the Government yesterday to use its planned relaxation of the National Curriculum to allow Latin and Greek back on to the state school timetable.

Mr John MacGregor, Secretary of State for Education and Science, has said that pupils would be allowed to opt out of examination courses in some of the 10 National Curriculum subjects in their last two years at school.

The Co-ordinating Committee for the Classics, which represents school and university classicists, said the change in curriculum rules should be extended to allow Latin and Greek to be taught again.

Dr Peter Jones, senior lecturer in Classics at Newcastle University, urged Mr MacGregor to follow the lead given by the Scottish Office, which has relaxed rules on the languages which secondary schools may teach.

Scottish children can now study any foreign language, including Latin and Greek, as their compulsory foreign language under their version of the National Curriculum.

Dr Jones said his organization was not suggesting that Latin and Greek should supplant French and German as the main foreign languages learned by pupils. "No one will make Latin their first and only language. But it would put Latin and Greek back within the school curriculum."

The National Curriculum working party on modern language teaching is due to report before Easter and the classicists hope it will endorse the teaching of Latin as an aid to learning modern languages.

Teachers were urged yesterday to become involved in efforts to combat a growing teenage craze of spray-painting graffiti on trains and buses

which has already claimed the lives of two children.

The Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association said teachers were increasingly concerned about the risks run by thousands of children indulging in "tagging".

Writing in the association's journal, Mr Paul Blum, head of careers at the Cardinal Vaughan School, Kensington, west London, said that "tagging" had replaced scribbling on school desks and walls as the favourite form of vandalism for many pupils.

Teenagers regularly played truant to join gangs spraying their initials and other symbols.

Mr Jack Straw, Labour's education spokesman, yesterday accused Conservative-controlled Bradford City Council of presiding over the worst repaired schools in Britain.

During a visit to the city he said: "Physical conditions in Bradford schools have changed little since my mother taught here during the last war."

Teachers who suspected that their pupils were involved in organized "tagging" should warn them and their parents of the dangers.

London Regional Transport said two youngsters had died because of "tagging" and three more through "surfing" riding outside moving trains.

British Rail said: "We have taken a stiff line in punishing offenders."

The Department of Education and Science said the Government was making £2.3 million available to help schools deal with the problem of truancy.

Leading article, page 13

Three boys burnt in explosion

Police are waiting to interview three teenagers who suffered serious burns when there was an explosion in their car. Neil Coleman, aged 17, of Great Cheverell, Ross Whiteside, aged 18, of Market Lavington, and Ian Walters, aged 15, of Odstock, all Wiltshire, were sitting on Salisbury Plain when the explosion happened.

Police believe a prank may have gone wrong. They think the boys sprayed an aerosol in the car and then lit a cigarette when the car was full of inflammable gases.

Arrest order

A warrant for the arrest of a Finnish captain who was allegedly drunk when his ship smashed on to rocks was issued at Truro Crown Court. Kalervo Puskala, aged 44, did not turn up to face a charge of failing to protect people on his ship from death or serious injury because he was drunk.

Citizens' radio

A scheme to help handicapped people increase their social life through Citizens' Band radio has been launched in Somerset. The Rural Development Commission paid half the £2,800 needed for 15 sets.

Exotic catch

Devon and Cornwall fishermen are netting giant Asian prawns which have swum from French fish farms and established colonies across the Channel.

Hiker death

Police are investigating the death of a hiker, aged about 40, whose body was discovered in woodland at Wark Forest, Northumberland, up to a year after he died.

Cocaine find

Police are trying to discover how £100,000 of cocaine was washed up on a beach at Borth, Dyfed.

French property boom

British sales treble to 12,000

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

Sales of French properties to British buyers trebled to 12,000 last year, according to estate agents, who predict this year they could reach up to 100,000 by 1993.

Increasing sales in the north, particularly in Normandy, the Pas de Calais and the Loire in Brittany and the Loire valley, are overtaking the steady interest in central and southern France, the agents said. Property sales to British buyers, which numbered about 2,000 in 1987, could top 20,000 this year.

To cope with and encourage the demand, dozens of firms have sprung up in the past year or so to act as agents, legal consultants and searchers.

Miss Louise Wheatcroft, of Knights of Normandy, which was established a year ago,

said: "Most of the interest at the moment is in Normandy and the north of France, and a lot of people are going over to look at properties."

She said many had largely decided to buy before they arrived. While some were looking for a chateau, most were aiming to pay less than £40,000 for a property in reasonable condition. Others hoped to pick up something for about £20,000 and restore it.

"We have on our books an old windmill, without its sails, in a field, for £8,000. That must be a bargain, even with the cost of renovation," she said.

Miss Wheatcroft rejected reports of local hostility against the British invasion.

"The French are happy to see people coming in and buying

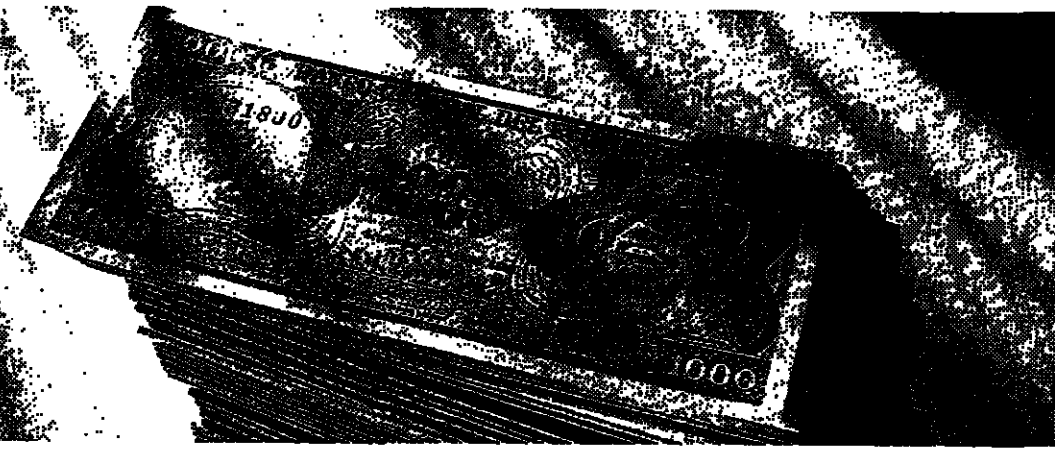
old and crumbling properties and repairing them. There is the isolated case which has led to reports of hostility, such as the Mayor of Honfleur, who takes the view that if the British buy they should come to live there," she said.

"If they only want to spend two weeks a year in a good property, denying it to anyone else, he does not want them."

Miss Wheatcroft said that contrary to what some other agencies had implied, prices had not rocketed throughout Normandy in the past year.

"It is still possible to find beautiful period properties in all price ranges, including the most popular price bracket of £10,000-£40,000 in the Orne, Seine Normande, Perche, Calvados and Manche regions of Normandy," she said.

WWF has bought part of the international debt of developing countries to help reduce the devastation of tropical forests.



WE'RE HELPING GOVERNMENTS CONVERT PAPER BACK INTO WOOD.



Massive debt. WWF were one of the first to recognise this as the major obstacle stopping third world countries protecting their natural resources.

In response, WWF organised "Debt for Nature Swaps". This is a process by which we buy, at a substantial discount, part of the outstanding debt of developing countries like Ecuador, Costa Rica, Zambia and Madagascar, or even arrange to write it off.

In return, the Government of that country agrees to help fund and implement more conservation projects.

We also help in other ways.

By working with 21 Governments and many of the world's Aid Agencies, we've set up ambitious schemes to preserve as much of the world's tropical forests as we can.

Many of these projects help local people manage the forest in new ways that benefit both themselves and the environment.

Already WWF's campaign to save one of Africa's oldest remaining rainforests, in Cameroon, is proving highly successful. The harvesting of food, medicine and the development of new industries are just some of the many projects already underway.

WWF's policy is to work with and influence the people who can bring about positive change, worldwide. Our approach has already proven successful, but we urgently need your support to continue.

You can help WWF by sending in a donation to help rainforests worldwide.

YES, I want to help WWF make a world of difference. I am over 18. I enclose my gift of £100 ☐ £50 ☐ £25 ☐ £15 ☐ Other £

☐ I enclose a cheque/postal order (made payable to WWF United Kingdom) or...

☐ Please debit this amount from my Access/Visa Card (delete as appropriate).

Card No.

Signed Date

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms (PLEASE PRINT NAME)


Address

Postcode

Tel No.

STILL IN THE? ☐

Please send to: WWF-UK, Dept P418 NCH, FREEPOST, Crown Courtyard, Corby, Northants, NN18 8ER.



WORLD WIDE FUND FOR NATURE. MAKING A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE.

WORLD WIDE FUND FOR NATURE - UK, PANDA HOUSE, WEYSIDE PARK, GOLDAMING, SURREY GU7 1XR. REGISTERED CHARITY No. 20707

CHANGING FACE OF SOUTH AFRICA

Liberalism stirs in land of leading ANC families

From R.W. Johnson
Umtata, Transkei

After his release from prison, Mr Nelson Mandela is losing no time in moving to Soweto, the hub of black political life in South Africa.

Before long, however, it is safe to predict that his thoughts will wander back to his beloved childhood home, Qunu, in Transkei.

Throughout his years in jail, Mr Mandela kept up his payment of rates on a residential and garden plot in Qunu and wrote of his desire "to spend my last days there."

Moreover, Transkei — for all that it is a nominally independent black homeland — could well have a decisive weight in settling South Africa's political future, for it is the great heartland of the African National Congress.

Not only the Mandelas but many of the other leading ANC families, such as the Sisulus, Tambores and Mbekis, come from here and Transkei's nearly four million Xhosa people will provide the ANC with its most solid and reliable base of support.

Already Transkei is in a fever of ANC rallies and meetings as people await a return which will be as tumultuous and

heartrending as anything Soweto can offer Mr Mandela.

Meanwhile, Major-General Bantu Holomisa, the military ruler of Transkei since a coup in 1987, has emerged as one of the most intriguing new actors on the South African political scene. The general has already made it clear that he sees himself playing a role in negotiations on South Africa's future — talks at which he could be a wild card of some importance.

Political speculation about General Holomisa has grown ever since he allowed the funeral of Chief Dalindyebo last year to become a virtual ANC rally and lifted banning orders on all political movements, including the ANC.

However, General Holomisa, a relaxed and engaging man, has had, he says, no direct contact with Mr Mandela, and no particular bias towards the ANC and no wish at all for a political career.

"Politics is a dirty game — means taking money from businessmen and doing favours for them. Once we have cleaned up the mess in Transkei, I will go back to soldiering. There are lots of courses I want to do, some in Britain for example. Failing that, I would like to run the Department of Sport." For the

general is a keen tennis, football, rugby and cricket player.

He took power on an anti-corruption ticket and his huge popularity derives from the energetic spirit in which he is carrying out his task. The placement imposed as chiefs under the regime of the Matanzima brothers have been booted out, and, to enormous popular satisfaction, the old traditional chiefs reappointed.

George Matanzima, the former Prime Minister, sentenced to jail for wholesale corruption, is now collaborating happily with an anti-corruption inquiry in return for a remission of sentence.

The general has also rooted out civil service corruption and paid for a large increase in civil service salaries by liberalizing Transkei's property and investment regime.

The fruit of this wholehearted embrace of free enterprise has been a large inflow of white investment, producing a building boom in Umtata. The result is that Umtata after the dark, oppressive years of the Matanzima's now enjoys a cheerful and liberal atmosphere.

One of the few people with whom the general is not popular is Transkei's former President, Mr Kaiser

Matanzima, who, together with his Transkei Independence Party, rails against the general and all his works.

"I see him in the street," says the general, "and say 'Hi', but he is just insulting to me, even though I pay him his salary as Paramount Chief at the end of each month. I must say, he's pushing his luck at times too far."

Asked whether the former President might find himself in jail or his salary stopped, the general replies, shocked: "Good heavens, no."

He seems really to be that great African rarity, a genuine liberal.

Spurred by reports that General Holomisa was about to lift Transkei's ban on the ANC and the Pan Africanist Congress, President de Klerk flew to Umtata on January 11. "He tried to treat us," the general says, "like naughty little boys."

Mr de Klerk, he says, strongly advised him against holding a referendum on whether Transkei should be re-integrated into South Africa, and also warned against pushing ahead too fast with his liberalization programme.

The South African President's aim, General Holomisa believes, was to "mentally destabilize us", for Mr de

Klerk's visit was followed up by heavy hints from Pretoria of financial pressure against Transkei.

The general was, therefore, amazed when Mr de Klerk himself went even further with his reforms on February 2. "Either he wanted to stop us being first with these measures, so as to have a greater media impact and avoid seeming to follow us," says General Holomisa, "or else an awful lot changed between January 11 and February 2. I think a lot of things changed."

Emboldened by this turn of events, the general now allows completely free political activity within Transkei and is pressing ahead with his referendum.

He says he has no interest in joining any party himself and that he is just as protective of the PAC's rights as of the ANC's.

"Mr Makwetla, the president of the Pan Africanist movement, now lives here and he is just as welcome as Mr Mandela," he insists.

Thus far, intense political competition is proceeding peacefully, but there is no doubt that the ANC is far ahead of PAC. The ANC is holding meetings in even the smallest country towns. Everywhere one sees groups of excited youths marching

and dancing along roads. There is evidence of Communist Party activity too.

Popular sentiment is overwhelmingly in favour of Transkei re-joining South Africa. General Holomisa shares this view but is cautious about forecasting a referendum result.

"The Transkei has many faces", he says.

However, he does feel strongly that the homelands question has to be settled before negotiations get under way. "After all, we have to know which homeland peoples are going to vote for a constituent assembly," he points out.

In fact, all the homeland leaders, says President Lucas Mangope of Bophuthatswana, have announced they want reintegration, but Mr Mangope wants to secede from South Africa and join Botswana.

But most of the other homelands are ruled in autocratic style, so General Holomisa's presumption of democratic referendums everywhere is likely to create embarrassment in some quarters.

The general may be no politician but one can see why he is popular and why his open, irreverent spirit would leave any negotiation process.

Thatcher aims to bolster De Klerk against backlash

By Richard Ford, Political Correspondent

The Government is prepared to lift non-binding sanctions against South Africa progressively as part of efforts to bolster the position of President de Klerk and prevent a white backlash sweeping him from power.

Mrs Thatcher is willing to act unilaterally in removing a number of the voluntary sanctions in response to steady progress being made in South Africa and to demonstrate the West's support for President de Klerk's initiative.

The Prime Minister and her senior colleagues are anxious that the South African President be given support and encouragement particularly as he comes under pressure from his own white community.

As Whitehall made clear last night that the Prime Minister would not hesitate to lift some voluntary sanctions unilaterally, a Foreign Office minister and senior Tory backbenchers warned of the danger of a white backlash against the South African Government unless the international community responded favourably.

Mr William Waldegrave, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, surprised MPs by saying that if nothing was done to support those wishing to negotiate, the British Government would be blamed "when the white backlash sweeps De Klerk away".

He said he spoke with urgency because President de Klerk was under most pressure from his own constituency and a signal should be sent to him about the benefits,

to him and his constituency, of continuing down the road of peace and dialogue.

With Labour accusing the Prime Minister of being isolated at the United Nations and in the Commonwealth, sources made clear that she did not "give two hoots" about being in a minority of one as long as she was right.

The Government will drop a ban on new investment in South Africa even without the agreement of the European Community and Commonwealth. Britain has already dropped another — the discouragement of cultural, academic and scientific contacts.

Whitehall said last night that, as steady progress was made in South Africa, restrictions would be eased. Mrs Thatcher is determined to fulfil her promise that Britain would support President de Klerk if he embarked on reform. The Prime Minister said she was not surprised at Mr Mandela's support for sanctions and the armed struggle because they were central points of the ANC's programme of which Mr Mandela was a member.

But she was said to believe that armed struggle was irrelevant when there was an offer of negotiations and she therefore hoped there would be no more talk of the armed struggle.

Despite Mr Mandela's support for the armed struggle, Whitehall made clear that the Prime Minister would be issuing an unconditional invitation to him to visit Britain.

● BRUSSELS: Opposition

hardened yesterday against the Government's desire to soften EC sanctions on Pretoria (Peter Gullford writes).

Statements came almost simultaneously from the African National Congress, the Organization of African Unity and the European Commission calling for sanctions to remain firmly in place until apartheid is abolished.

Señor Manuel Marin, the EC's Development Commissioner, pronounced himself "completely in favour of maintaining sanctions". These are a ban on trading in iron and steel and kruggerands, a freeze on military and scientific co-operation and voluntary curbs on fresh investment.

● SYDNEY: The Australian Government has said Mr Mandela's release is not a cue to ease economic sanctions (Robert Cockburn writes). In Canberra yesterday, Senator Gareth Evans, the Foreign Minister, said: "The point about sanctions policy is to secure the abolition of apartheid. When that process is well and truly under way, then will be the time to reconsider."

● HARARE: President Mugabe of Zimbabwe criticized Mrs Thatcher yesterday for her "too hasty embrace" of President de Klerk (Jan Raath writes). "We remain sparing of our praise (for Mr de Klerk) because the issue that the people of South Africa have been fighting for has been the creation of a political order which denies no one his rights".

Mandela holds the future



Mr Nelson Mandela cradling Bambata, his youngest grandchild, in his arms while waiting to board the flight from Cape Town taking him and his family back to Soweto yesterday.

Markets jittery on commitment to state control

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

Foreign investors began selling on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange yesterday as they weighed up Mr Nelson Mandela's call for intensified international economic pressure on the South African Government and his commitment to nationalize key sectors such as mines and banks under a black-dominated Government. Gold and platinum stocks took the brunt of the selling wave, which was worsened by a weaker gold bullion price in Europe.

However, a broker said foreign investors had been buying South African stocks for some time. "They have now topped up and at the moment are a bit wary about the future," he added.

Although the initial stock-market reaction is likely to prove largely artificial, with foreign investors flocking back when prices are right, longer-term economic prospects for South Africa remain cloudy.

President de Klerk's announcement, on February 2, lifting bans on the African National Congress, the South African Communist Party and other outlawed organizations

bolstered the country's foreign exchange reserves by a billion rands (£238 million) within a week. But Dr Chris Stals, Governor of the Reserve Bank, has cautioned that there was mainly "hot money" from speculative investors expecting an appreciation in the exchange rate.

Since 1985, when President Botha abandoned apartheid reforms with his "Rubicon" speech, South Africa has been starved of foreign capital. The flight of foreign business, however, began some time before

with the continuation, on a national basis, of black rioting. It has been calculated by Trustbank, one of South Africa's biggest commercial banks, that the country has lost 40 billion rands in the past five years, in lost loans, direct investment, and trade sanctions aimed mainly at exports of coal, iron and steel, and fruit.

More serious has been the loss of an estimated 500,000 jobs. Most of the country's vast army of unemployed is black, but many blue-collar whites have also suffered, with mortgage rates spiralling to 21 per cent and inflation running at more than 15 per cent.

The far-right Conservative Party, capitalizing on all this, saw its parliamentary representation nearly double in last September's general election.

Foreign ministers of the European Community meet in Dublin next week and Britain is expected to urge lifting the voluntary ban on new investment as a reaction to the reforms announced by Mr de Klerk.

Britain remains the largest investor in South Africa, despite public pressure on companies operating there.

The largest withdrawal has been by American firms — about half of those operating there in 1984 are not now. Many of them — including General Motors, Ford, IBM and Coca-Cola — have licensed South African companies to sell or make their products, a tactic seen by anti-South African lobbies as a cynical exercise to ensure that profits still flow back to the source of production.

Apathy marks white response

From Nicholas Beeston, Johannesburg

The old Africa hands say they have seen it all before.

Black rule in post-colonial Africa has not worked and South Africa, the last bastion of white authority, is no exception.

"I packed my bags in Rhodesia when it became independent and I've never been back," said a Norwegian expatriate returning to his refrigeration business in Cape Town as South African history was being made with the release of Mr Nelson Mandela.

The response was hardly surprising from someone who has spent 49 years working

attitude to his trade. Among young whites, student activists have for years been at the forefront in the call for change, but some of their less politically aware contemporaries appear just as apathetic as their counterparts the world over.

A talk-show host on a local radio station fielding calls from white South African suburban housewives yesterday must have been surprised by the response to his phone-in on the Mandela release. Instead of a debate about the future of the country, he was overwhelmed by callers complaining that the live television coverage of Mr Mandela's release was patchy and that for long periods viewers were served up a

There was no mention of his speech, reaffirming the ANC's policy of armed struggle — only the suggestion from callers that they had wasted their Sunday afternoon.

Even supporters at a neo-Nazi rally on Saturday afternoon, vowing violent revenge against President de Klerk for his act of treason against the Afrikaner nation, became hopelessly sidetracked from their main message by bouts of anti-Semitism and outdated conspiracy theories about the communist takeover of the Christian world.

The startling revelation about the snatches of popular reaction is that by and large white South Africans appear to accept the inevitability of black rule and, publicly, have offered no cohesive resistance to the changes which are about to affect their lives.

across the continent and has sought final refuge in South Africa.

The most familiar refrain among whites who say they are pessimistic for the country's future is the argument that black majority rule will slide South Africa inexorably into bloody tribal feuding.

"They just can't get on with each other," confided a white taxi-driver, before embarking on a tirade against Johannesburg's municipal transport authorities for their restrictive

The prisoners left behind amid the euphoria

Johannesburg (Reuter) — The anti-apartheid movement's rallying cry of "Release Nelson Mandela" has paid off, but civil rights lawyers say that 14 prisoners remain in South African jails, serving life sentences for what they regard as political crimes.

They estimate that up to 3,300 other political prisoners may be behind bars in comparative obscurity, predominantly in the nominally self-governing homelands.

When President de Klerk unbanned the African National Congress and other dissident groups on February 2, he promised to free all political prisoners jailed merely because they belonged to prohibited organizations.

Civil rights lawyers say that there are 77 such prisoners.

But many more were convicted

for murder, arson and terrorism which some see as politically motivated. These prisoners were excluded from the President's amnesty, although government ministers have said that their release could be negotiated.

"The problem is that Mandela has become so big that all other ANC personalities shrank in comparison," one leading activist said.

He did not want to be identified, saying that other activists would perceive him as being "anti-Mandela".

Mr Mandela and the ANC have pledged themselves to fight for the release of all political prisoners: "I reiterate our call for... the freeing of all, and not only some, political prisoners," Mr Mandela said in his first public speech in Cape Town on Sunday. One of the 14 serving life

imprisonment for offences that sent Mr Mandela to jail is Anthony Xaba, aged 56. He has spent 25 years in prison.

A member of the ANC's armed wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe (Spear of the Nation), he was convicted of terrorism and conspiracy to overthrow white rule by violence and sentenced to life in jail.

"Why not Viva Xaba, Viva Xaba, and only Viva Mandela, Viva Mandela?" a member of Xaba's family asked.

Mr Dali Mphofu, spokesman for the Release Mandela Campaign, said that the group had used Mr Mandela's name for its symbolic value because the ANC veteran and Umkhonto we Sizwe co-founder was known internationally.

He said: "The campaign itself will continue until the very last political

prisoner is freed." Others who have served between 15 and 25 years of life terms are Elphas Mdlosale, aged 65, Msomi Mziywa, aged 65, and Vusumuzi Nene and David Moise, both over 50.

Mdlosale, a member of the ANC and its trade-union wing, the Congress of South African Trade Unions, was detained in 1963 and sentenced to 10 years. He was released in 1974 but 18 months later rearrested and sentenced to life imprisonment.

Mziywa and Nene, fellow ANC members, have been in jail for 22 years and 15 years respectively.

In 1982 Joseph Nduli, Petrus Mashigo, Johanson Lubisi, Naphthali Manana and Johannes Shabangu were sentenced to life for offences including public violence, arson and murder. Sanna Twala, Linda Hlo-

phe, Daniel Mbokwane and Lizo Ngungwana were jailed for life in 1987 for similar offences, one of them entailing a "necklace" killing. In these killings, a petrol-filled tyre is placed around the neck of the victim and set alight.

Mr Kobie Coetsee, the Justice Minister, said last March that about 374 people were serving sentences for offences against state security.

The anti-apartheid Human Rights Commission said that Mr Coetsee's figure did not include about 3,300 political prisoners in the "homelands" — impoverished black mini-states covering 13 per cent of the country and created by Pretoria under apartheid.

The commission said it was impossible to give exact figures of detainees because the homelands were so fragmented.



Mr Tony Chandler, a workman, removing paint yesterday from the bronze bust of Mr Nelson Mandela in London. After the day that the best-known prisoner in the world gained his freedom, racist vandals struck overnight with white paint at the South Bank complex.

Racist vandals' paint protest

Continued from page 1

conferences, this being regarded as an affront to objectivity, but they did on this occasion. A spontaneous and prolonged burst of hand-clapping greeted Mr Mandela as he took his place at a long table covered with microphones in the shade of a baobab tree, and his pleasure was evident.

At ease in his unfamiliar surroundings (his ornate, hand-carved chair was a 17th-century masterpiece), he promptly apologized for having had to cancel a press conference on Sunday night, and paid tribute to the media, both local and international, for remembering him in his long ordeal.

"Throughout these difficult years in prison, the press have been a brick to us. I think it was originally the intention of the Government that we should be forgotten... it was

the press who never forgot us. We are therefore indebted to you," he said.

Confronted by a forest of television cameras, he never flinched beneath a barrage of political and personal questions, responding to each in measured and eloquent terms.

Occasionally he greeted a questioner whom he had never met, but whose name was familiar from endless reading of newspapers during his confinement, with a hearty hello. "You're in good shape, I thought you'd be bigger and fatter," he told a local journalist.

He had been overwhelmed by the "breath-taking" enthusiasm of his reception, and astonished to see so many whites among the masses of blacks celebrating his release. South Africa was totally different from the country of his youth, and he wished to assure

whites they had nothing to fear from the black majority.

Asked whether there was any bitterness in him, he said: "It is not a nice feeling for a man to see his family struggling without security, without the dignity of the head of the family around, but despite the hard times we had in prison there have been men who do everything to try and make you as happy as possible. That has wiped out any bitterness which a man could have."

Turning aside from politics, Mr Mandela said he longed to visit his birthplace in Transkei "to see the little stones on which I played as a child, the little rivers where I swam".

The humanity and lyricism of the man, who might easily have emerged a bitter and spiteful victim of injustice, impressed his most sceptical listeners. By the time he left, he had won our admiration.

هكذا من الأمل

Sharon quits in gamble to wrest power from Shamir

From Richard Owen, Jerusalem

Mr Ariel "Arik" Sharon, who, as a brilliant general, crossed the Suez Canal in the 1973 Middle East War to earn the title "the Israeli Patton", took the biggest gamble of his political career yesterday by resigning from the Israeli coalition Government.

This move was an attempt to prevent Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister, from embarking on the "national disaster" of peace talks with the Palestinians. His dramatic move was seen as an attempt for future power if the Government collapses, with Mr Sharon seeking a mandate to end the *intifada* by severe methods.

Mr Sharon, aged 61, opened a highly charged session of the Likud party central committee, of which he is chairman, by accusing the Shamir Government of "allowing Palestinian terror to run wild" and of taking Israel down a diplomatic path which could lead, in the West Bank and Gaza, only to a Palestinian state intent on the destruction of its Jewish neighbour.

Mr Sharon, a larger-than-life figure, with a passionate following on the Israeli right wing, said he was resigning his post as Trade and Industry Minister but would keep his position as Likud party chairman and his post as an MP. This would leave him free to "fight for what I believe in".

Mr Sharon's bombshell is designed to put pressure on Mr Shamir, aged 74—who has headed the uneasy coalition between Likud and Labour since December 1988—to risk Washington's anger and reject a US-sponsored plan for the first Israeli-Palestinian talks, to be held in Cairo.

The talks would discuss Mr Shamir's own proposal for elections in the occupied territories, leading to limited Arab self-rule to defuse the *intifada*.

But Mr Sharon said the talks would be the thin edge of a wedge leading to a state of Palestine under the domination of the "terrorist Palestine Liberation Organization".

Mr Shamir has ruled out talks with the PLO, and, like Mr Sharon, is opposed to Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank and Gaza, which he regards as part of Greater Israel. But Mr Shamir has

gone along with proposals for a US-Israeli-Egyptian conference on direct Israeli-Palestinian negotiations. This has caused mounting dismay on the right, which exploded yesterday in a crisis which threatens to split Likud.

Mr Sharon, a white-haired man of imposing bulk, with an outspoken manner which some say verges on the demagogic, had made increasingly sharp personal attacks on Mr Shamir and on those loyal to him, such as Mr Moshe Arens, the Foreign Minister, whom he accused of evading military service in the 1948 war of independence.

Yesterday, Mr Sharon stunned delegates by announcing he had sent a letter of resignation to Mr Shamir. He declared: "Vital national principles are at stake. Under our very noses, Palestinian terror is allowed to run wild in the land of Israel, causing heavy loss of innocent life, both Jewish and Arab."

Mr Sharon, who has the support of several senior Likud ministers, including Mr David Levy, the Deputy Prime Minister, is a fierce critic of Israel's failure to suppress the *intifada*, now in its third year.

He used the attack by Arab extremists on Israeli tourists in Egypt just over a week ago, in which 10 people lost their lives, to declare that all Palestinians were terrorists, including those who professed moderation.

"I have come to the conclusion that I am no longer able to remain in the Government and wait until it falls," Mr Sharon said.

He charged that Mr Shamir had already made concessions to the PLO by secretly agreeing that Palestinians who had been deported from the occupied territories and leading east Jerusalem Arabs could form part of the proposed Palestinian negotiating team.

Before the conference ended in disarray, Mr Shamir agreed with the right that east Jerusalem Arabs should not be part of any Palestinian delegation, but he made no mention of deportees.

He said that he would respond to Mr Sharon's decision when he received his letter of resignation.

Indian right protests at alleged Pakistani role in Kashmir violence

Bhutto silent as options run out

From Christopher Thomas, Muzaffarabad



A stick-wielding member of the right-wing Bharatiya Janata Party shouting anti-Islamabad slogans in Delhi yesterday, outside the Pakistan High Commission, over the Kashmir issue.

Kashmiris in Pakistan raised a din of anti-India protest in their small, run-down "capital" of Muzaffarabad yesterday — marching, chanting and waving black flags as they pledged another suicidal violation of the Kashmir ceasefire line.

Their protest over the killing of up to 11 young men by Indian forces on the boundary on Sunday was in marked contrast to the silence observed by the Pakistani Government.

The low-key official response in Islamabad was highly significant, since it showed the extent of the Government's determination to avoid raising the confrontation with India to a war pitch.

The Foreign Office said only that the Indian High Commissioner had been informed of Pakistan's "deep shock" at the killing of unarmed civilians.

It was the second serious encounter across the Kashmiri line of control in a week. Even so, Pakistan has failed completely to stir international interest in the conflict and has therefore decided against taking its case to the United Nations Security Council.

If it did, the Soviet Union has made it clear that it would

veto any anti-Indian resolution. China has said it would not be interested in backing a UN move, as Kashmiri separatists are demanding a slice of Chinese territory that supposedly belonged to ancient Kashmir.

To complete this unpromising international scenario, other Islamic countries said they did not want to be associated with a separatist cause backed so fervently by Iran, which paints the Kashmir affair in terms of a global Islamic reawakening.

Miss Benazir Bhutto, the Prime Minister, is without any influential political options. Opposition parties accuse her of being soft on India — one of the most damning indictments that can be levelled at a Pakistani leader.

The press in both Pakistan and India has fallen into a frenzy of jingoism and misreporting. Day after day, Indian newspapers and wire services are referring to the infiltration of "hard-core Pakistani subversives" into the Kashmir Valley.

There is not a shred of firm evidence to support allegations of officially sanctioned training camps for guerrillas inside Pakistan.

Liberians flee army abuses

Washington (AFP) — US officials say more than 100,000 Liberians have fled to neighbouring West African countries in recent weeks to escape an army crackdown against a Libyan-backed rebellion.

The behaviour of the Army has been very disturbing, said Mr Andrew Natsios, director of the US office of Foreign Disaster Assistance.

Cabinet losses

Athens — The three parties supporting the Greek Government of Professor Xenophon Zolotas, the Prime Minister, have pulled their ministers out of his Cabinet.

Reporter held

Kampala (Reuters) — The Ugandan Government has detained a third journalist alleged to have insulted President Kaunda of Zambia at a press conference.

Court denial

Kota Kinabalu (Reuters) — Mr Jeffrey Kitingan, brother of the Chief Minister of Sabah, the only Christian-controlled Malaysian state, pleaded not guilty to corruption charges.

Bomb damage

Lisbon (Reuters) — A bomb set off by Angolan Unita rebels cut the water pipeline to Luanda, the capital.

FRONT PAGE NEWS FOR REGALIAN 50/50 HOME PURCHASE PLAN

FINANCIAL TIMES

"A radical solution to the stalemate of London's housing market..."

THE TIMES

"Flat buyers snap up 50-50 deal."

Gossip columnist comes up Trumps

From Charles Bremner, New York

Barely had Mr John Gotti, Mafia superstar, been acquitted and accorded his weekend of media glory than New York's tabloids and chat-shows switched into overdrive for another of those psychodramas the city so loves — the matrimonial parting of the ways of Donald and Ivana Trump, otherwise known as the "Divorce of the Century".

Nudged by a gossip columnist's exclusive report, Mr Donald Trump, the billionaire developer who most personified the unabashed excesses of Manhattan in the 1980s, announced yesterday that he is leaving his glamorous wife and business collaborator.

As he flew back from Japan, staff began moving his belongings from the couple's vast marble and onyx-laden penthouse atop Trump Tower, the Fifth Avenue skyscraper that is unequalled for glitz.

Mr Trump, who prides himself as the greatest "deal-maker", installed the flat as an exercise in one-upmanship against Mr Adnan Khashoggi, the Saudi financier who had installed a veritable palace in his Olympic Tower five blocks down the road.

"War of the Trumps", shrieked the headlines as lawyers were wheeled out on television to speculate over the legal ramifications should the couple fight over the finances of the Trump company, which includes the Plaza Hotel and a *Dynasty*-sized

collection of skyscrapers, hotels and casinos stretching from New York to Florida.

"The impending split is shaking the dynamic, magnetic and highly publicized Trump empire to its foundations," confided Miss Liz Smith, the doyenne of gossip writers who published the exclusive report.

Yesterday, however, Mr Trump's men hit back at suggestions that Mrs Trump, a former Czechoslovak Olympic skier and one of the most glamorous blondes on the American celebrity scene, was entitled to more than her allotment under a pre-nuptial agreement that the couple renegotiated three times during their 12 years of marriage.

The agreement gives Mrs Trump, aged 41, about \$25 million (£15 million) plus the couple's Connecticut estate. That leaves everything else, including the world's biggest motor yacht and an airline, to Mr Trump, who is 43. He also plans to keep charge of the three children.

Though Mrs Trump had worked full-time for her husband, as chief decorator, casino director in Atlantic City and, most recently, manager of the Plaza, she was not a partner, said a spokesman. "She was just a figurehead in Atlantic City... The Liz Smith article was clearly planted by sources close to Ivana, most likely her attorneys, because of the gross inaccuracies."

Mr Trump built his empire in the 1980s and used it to launch his creed of flamboyant ostentation, an approach that soon earned him a reputation as the biggest ego in America and "the man with the Midas fist".

It was well known, for example, that Mrs Trump's "salary" consisted of \$1 — plus all the dresses she wanted.

Litigation is considered likely because of Mr Trump's taste for legal battles. The 10 legal firms that serve his companies are nearly constantly at work suing adversaries on behalf of the man who says: "I love to have enemies. I fight my enemies. I like beating my enemies to the ground."



Mrs Trump: \$1 "salary" and all the dresses she wanted.

QUAY 430 Vaughan Way, Wapping, E.1. £55,000 to £160,000*	GLADSTONE COURT Regency Street, Westminster, SW1. £92,000 to £143,500*	FREE TRADE WHARF The Highway, Wapping, E.1. £73,000 to £212,500*
SILVER WALK Rotherhithe Street, S.E.16. £68,750 to £92,500*	FLORIN COURT Charterhouse Square, E.C.1. £41,000 to £87,500*	MACREADY HOUSE 75 Crawford Street, W.1. £84,500 to £180,000*
ELM QUAY Nine Elms Lane, SW8. £90,000 to £236,500*	CROWN LODGE Elystan Street, Chelsea, SW3. £106,500 to £304,000*	THE FALCONS Grant Road, Battersea, S.W.11. £42,875 to £70,250*

*The half price payable now. Standard features at most Regalian developments include Swimming pool, Sauna, Whirlpool Spa, Gymnasium, Private Parking, Landscaped Gardens, 24 Hour Porterage, and Security.

The new Regalian 50/50 Home Purchase Plan gives you the opportunity to buy the home of your choice at half price now, paying the balance at any time you choose during the next five years at the then market value.

The Regalian 50/50 Home Purchase Plan is available at Regalian developments throughout London. Visit any of the sales offices today and participate in the Regalian 50/50 Home Purchase Plan.

Sales offices and show apartments are open from 11.00am to 7.00pm weekdays and 11.00am to 5.00pm weekends.

Mortgages of up to 90% are available from leading building societies. For a free brochure on the Regalian 50/50 Home Purchase Plan, telephone

01-847 7711

REGALIAN
50/50
HOME PURCHASE PLAN

Sales Agents:
RADIUS

German reunification talks begin in Bonn

UK demands guarantee on Poland's boundaries

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Editor, and Ian Murray, Bonn

Britain is pressing, as part of an agreement on German reunification between the Four Powers and the two Germanies, for a guarantee that Poland's borders will not be changed.

The aim is to ensure that a reunited Germany will not at some future point seek reunification with former German territory which was transferred to Poland at the end of the Second World War.

Poland and the Soviet Union have always feared that the Oder-Neisse line, which became East Germany's eastern border as part of the post-war settlement, would be challenged if the two Germanies achieved unity.

The first real reunification negotiations begin in Bonn today when Herr Hans Modrow, the interim East German Prime Minister, arrives for two days of talks which will concentrate on speedy ways of introducing the Deutschmark as the common currency of both the Germanies.

Herr Modrow, who can expect to remain in power only until the East German election on March 18, comes cap in hand to Bonn. Just more than two months ago he took over the Government of a country he believed had the strongest economy in the socialist bloc, speaking firmly of creating a strong socialist alternative Germany and saying

that he believed a purged communist party would have an important say in its future.

Now he is struggling to stave off state bankruptcy by surrendering sovereignty over his country's currency, in effect handing over the country itself to the Bundesbank, clearly political unity cannot be far behind.

Herr Modrow has already accepted that reunification will go ahead on terms dictated by Herr Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor.

This means he is not insisting on neutrality as the price of unity. Without the authority of being an elected leader, and without any financial basis to bargain with, he has virtually no negotiating authority.

Just how serious the East German economic situation is remains questionable. With money markets estimating that the national "takeover bid" will prove expensive, the Deutschmark yesterday weakened against most important world currencies. It was down a pennig against the dollar to DM1.67 and down from DM2.82 to DM2.84 against the pound.

West German sources are largely responsible for creating the gloomy economic picture. A very senior official last week said bankruptcy was only days away, which undoubtedly helped persuade President Gorbachov at the weekend to agree that unity was some-

thing for the Germans to agree between themselves.

Yesterday's round-table discussions in East Berlin instructed Herr Modrow not to agree to anything on monetary union which would not benefit the East German population. But the West German Government is not ready to have terms dictated to it and is confident that Herr Modrow will basically have to do as he is told.

The British view that guarantees are required against future German territorial claims emerged yesterday when Mrs Thatcher held talks at Downing Street with Mr Tadeusz Mazowiecki, the Polish Prime Minister.

She said afterwards that they had discussed German reunification and the need for it to be carried out in a way which would preserve security and stability in Europe. She added: "In particular, the frontiers of Poland must be guaranteed by treaty."

Her demand cuts across the West German position, which is that, while Bonn makes no claim to the German part of Poland, the question cannot be settled until after reunification is achieved.

● MOSCOW: The Kremlin has described as one-sided the interpretation placed on the weekend meeting between Mr Gorbachov and Herr Kohl (Mary Dejevsky writes). Mr Gennadi Gerasimov, the For-

eign Ministry spokesman, said yesterday that, while Mr Gorbachov had indeed said that German reunification was a matter for the Germans to decide, he had also emphasized that reunification should be within the framework of the Helsinki process and with due account for the security interests of all sides, including the Soviet Union and the Germanies' neighbours.

Mr Gerasimov's statement suggested a degree of unhappiness with the widely held view that Moscow had removed all obstacles to German reunification. It also implied criticism of Herr Kohl for announcing so soon after his meeting that Mr Gorbachov had acquiesced in the desire of Germans for unity and indicated that Mr Gorbachov's policy may not yet have the full approval of the Soviet leadership.

Soviet and West German accounts of the Kohl-Gorbachov meeting have consistently differed in sequence, with Moscow placing the European and security aspects first, and West German versions stressing the responsibility of Germans for the fate of Germany.

There has, however, been no disagreement on the words used by Mr Gorbachov, which amount to *carte blanche* for reunification.

Leading article, page 13



Mrs Thatcher welcoming Mr Mazowiecki, Poland's Prime Minister, to No 10 yesterday.

Cellist defends 'Gulag' writer

Moscow (AP) — Mstislav Rostropovich, aged 62, the world-renowned cellist and conductor who now lives in the United States, said after his return to the Soviet Union after a 16-year absence yesterday that the Government should drop treason charges against Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, the exiled author, and apologize to him.

"It is ridiculous that a charge of high treason like this continues to loom over him," Rostropovich told a press conference a day after he returned to his homeland for concerts in Moscow and Leningrad.

Rostropovich and his wife, Galina Vishnevskaya, the singer who was part of the Bolshoi Theatre opera company for 30 years, were stripped of their citizenship in 1978, four years after they were hounded into leaving the Soviet Union for giving refuge to Solzhenitsyn.

In January their citizenship was restored by the Supreme Soviet and the edict which stripped them of all honours and medals was nullified.

Rostropovich, asked about the possible return of Solzhenitsyn, said the dissident writer hoped to come back to the Soviet Union, but not until censorship of his work was completely lifted.

"I think that Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn will come back, but the Soviet Union must apologize for the absurd charge of high treason."

He added that failure to repeal the charge, which carries the death penalty, ran counter to everything happening in the Soviet Union today.

Several prominent Soviet cultural figures who lost their citizenship under past regimes have been restored and have subsequently returned to the Soviet Union amid the cultural thaw that prevails under President Gorbachov.

Solzhenitsyn, author of *The Gulag Archipelago*, which depicted the horrors of Stalin's prison camps, was formerly charged with high treason in 1974, stripped of his citizenship and expelled from the country. Rostropovich and his wife followed him into exile a few months later.

Soviet officials have said that Solzhenitsyn's citizenship could be restored — but only if he formally requests it.

They said that they had not yet received any request from the author, who lives in the US state of Vermont.

East Germans want to block Kohl rush to currency union

From Michael Binayon, Brussels, and Anne McElvoy, East Berlin

Thirteen groups represented at the East German round-table talks urged Herr Hans Modrow, the Prime Minister, yesterday, not to accept currency union proposals put by West Germany when he meets Herr Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor, in Bonn today.

The development emerged as Herr Theo Waigel, the West German Finance Minister, was assuring his European Community counterparts in Brussels that Bonn's offer of immediate currency union would not lessen its commitment to full European economic and monetary union in the timetable already agreed.

The East German round-table members want a more gradual approach to prevent an immediate

rise in inflation and unemployment which, they say, can only exacerbate instability in the country after the March 18 election.

With pressure growing on East Berlin to agree to Herr Kohl's suggestion of immediate negotiations on currency union, many East Germans fear that their savings will be at risk and that the reform will cause many redundancies as businesses find themselves unable to compete with their Western rivals.

Herr Wolfgang Ullmann, of the centre-right Democracy Now group, attacked the rumours spread by government circles in Bonn last week that East Germany was on the brink of insolvency.

The rumour, which was denied by the East German Government, has caused a sudden chill in the

climate of relations with West Germany. The Government spokesman said that East Berlin had complained formally to Bonn yesterday.

There was also a spate of attacks on Herr Kohl, who appeared rather too triumphant on his return from talks with President Gorbachov even for those East German politicians who usually sympathize with him. Herr Konrad Weiss, also of Democracy Now, said that Herr Kohl was increasingly acting in the interests of his own party by speeding up unification plans by the week.

In Brussels Herr Waigel insisted that the offer of currency union would open opportunities for investment in East Germany by all EC members, giving a significant spurt to their own economic

growth. However, he admitted that currency union, with the Bundesbank taking charge of the East German monetary supply, would inevitably lead to a rise in unemployment in East Germany, the closure of factories and a need for complete reform of the social security system there.

He said something had to be done immediately because of the dramatic collapse of political and economic authority in East Germany, the growing stream of migrants from the East and the need to offer a "clear sign of hope" to East Germans. Bonn, he said, will insist on the introduction of a market economy, and irreversible commitment by East Germany to the legalization of private property, free markets, free trade unions and an opening to the world for private

investment capital. Other EC ministers, reflecting the general bemusement that has greeted the Bonn offer, expressed cautious support, but emphasized that nothing must be done to destabilize the Community structures.

With a hint of impatience at those countries insisting on gradual reunification, with extensive international consultations, Herr Waigel said that the situation was getting out of control.

Mr Arnold Reynolds, the Irish Finance Minister, who was presiding over the meeting, said EC ministers were ready at any time for a special discussion of the issue, and suggested calling an emergency meeting within the next few weeks.

M Jacques Delors, the Commission's President, said the German offer raised three questions: what

were the consequences for the Community's own structure and rules, what effect would it have on the European Monetary System and especially the exchange rate mechanism; and who would foot the bill.

He said the EC was ready to pay part of the cost.

Herr Waigel said the currency plan was a great challenge for the German economy, but the risks were calculable, as the East German economic output was only one-tenth of West Germany's. The offer was based on the Federal Republic's insistence on holding fast to a stable monetary policy. "The Deutschmark will also remain, in the future, an anchor of stability for the European monetary system," he told fellow ministers.

Hard times put pressure on Swedish socialism

From Christopher Mosey, Stockholm

The Swedish Social Democratic Government faces a mounting crisis that could result in its being voted out of office later this week.

Paradoxically, this comes at a time when the newly liberated countries of Eastern Europe are flocking here to learn how the country reconciles socialist ideas with a free-market economy.

The crisis has come about over the Social Democrats' drastic package of deflationary measures, including a two-year freeze on wages, prices, rents and dividends, with the right to strike banned.

Mr Ingvar Carlsson, the Prime Minister, yesterday desperately sought allies among the other parties to help him

push through the measures, most severe in Sweden's post-war history. The Greens initially said they were prepared to support him in return for other measures aimed at protecting the environment.

However, their various leaders have since said that they would be unable to agree to the ban on strikes.

Mr Carlsson's main chance of saving his Government

● The best hope Carlsson has is for an alliance with Communists ●

rests with the Communists, traditional allies of the Social Democrats, though they too say they cannot support the strike ban.

The dilemma for the Com-

munist is that if Mr Carlsson's Government falls, provoking a new election, this would most probably result in a non-socialist coalition government, with a conservative prime minister.

According to a recent public opinion poll, conducted by the influential Sifo research institute, the Social Democrats would attract only 34 per cent of the vote. Even the support of the Communists (6.9 per cent) and the Greens (6 per cent) would not then be enough to give them a majority over Sweden's three non-socialist parties, whom Sifo showed as likely to poll 48.7 per cent.

The conservatives, with 25.5 per cent, would be likely to poll more than the two other non-socialist parties, Centre (10.1 per cent) and the Liberals (13.1 per cent), enabling them to demand the premiership for Mr Carl Bildt, their young leader, who wants radical economic changes.

The non-socialists, who are loosely aligned and given to squabbling amongst themselves, have maintained a united front against Mr Carlsson's package, though in the past the agrarian-based Centre Party has allied itself with the Social Democrats.

It would be unwise to take the present crisis too seriously. Given Sweden's long tradition for political consensus, such things have a habit of resolving themselves at the last minute and such is likely to be the case this week.

Mr Carlsson appeared to be pinning most of his hopes on the Communists, claimed by the Social Democratic evening newspaper *Aftonbladet* yesterday to be willing to drop the strike ban in return for their support for his other measures.

None the less, in the usually uneventful day-to-day politics of Swedish political life, this is by far the worst crisis he has faced since coming to power

following the assassination of his predecessor, Olof Palme, in 1986 and winning re-election two years later.

It comes with the country still crippled by a conflict over a wage claim that has closed down its banks and with public-sector workers staging wildcat strikes that have disrupted public transport.

An official strike by 23,000 hospital workers will be called

● The crisis follows a wage freeze and ban on the right to strike ●

tomorrow in support of a pay claim, disrupting Sweden's otherwise ultra-efficient national health service.

Mr Carlsson denies he has been stampeded into action by

this rash of labour unrest and says the deflationary package is necessary to cool down an over-heated economy.

The present situation demonstrates the flaws in the so-called "Swedish model". This introduced a centralized wage-bargaining system guaranteeing industrial peace for most of the post-war period, laying the foundation for its prosperity and welfare state.

So long as productivity rose with wages, the Swedish model served its purpose. Today, in a far harsher economic climate, it seems to be dying, unable to adapt.

The principal flaw in its construction seems to be the reliance on deals between giant union and employer federations. When times were good this worked well.

Now, when there is less money available for pay rises and agreement cannot be reached, such centralization leads only to massive industrial action.

WORLD ROUNDUP

Perrier investors flood the market

Paris — In nervous reaction to the great Perrier drought in the United States, French investors yesterday flooded the Bourse with orders to sell shares in the highly successful group (Philip Jacobson writes). Despite fresh assurances from Perrier that the problem — contamination of one supply line with tiny quantities of benzene — has been solved and that exports to the US will resume within weeks, the initial rush to get rid of stock led the share price to fall almost 12 per cent.

A Perrier spokesman said yesterday: "The hypothesis of human error being to blame for the presence of benzene in precisely 13 bottles in the US is increasingly likely."

The average French supermarket offers a good choice of waters and any attempt to sell Perrier at the "designer water" prices quoted in the US and Britain would probably see the product laughed off the shelves.

Pilots' damages bill

Sydney (Reuter) — Pilots who brought Australian flights to a virtual standstill during a bitter dispute last year were ordered yesterday to pay \$6.6 million (£2.8 million) in damages to four domestic airlines. The Victorian Supreme Court in Melbourne ordered the Australian Federation of Airline Pilots to pay the damages, including \$2 million in legal costs. Mr Brian McCarthy, the federation president, said the union could not afford to pay even if it sold its six-storey office headquarters in central Melbourne. The dispute started on August 18 last year when the pilots, seeking a 29 per cent pay rise, refused to work outside business hours.

Prince's secret visit

Rome — Prince Victor Emanuel of Savoy, the pretender to the Italian throne, reportedly dined in a fish restaurant near Viareggio last February in open defiance of a law forbidding heirs to the throne from setting foot in Italy (Paul Bonaparte writes). Although an article of Italy's postwar Constitution bans heirs to the throne from Italian soil, there have been reports of the prince visiting the country under a false identity. If caught, he could be arrested, but the Viareggio restaurant owner said that the prince was pleased rather than disturbed at being recognized.

Perth woman leader

Sydney — Australia's first woman to be elected a state Premier, Dr Carmen Lawrence, aged 41, yesterday replaced Mr Peter Dowding, the leader of the troubled West Australian Labor Party (Robert Cockburn writes). Mr Dowding's departure removes an embarrassing obstacle shortly before Mr Bob Hawke, the Labor Prime Minister of Australia, announces the federal election date — expected to be between March 17 and the end of May.

Ethiopians still in port

Nairobi (Reuter) — Ethiopian government forces retained a toe-hold in the embattled Red Sea port of Masawa on Sunday night, despite claims by Eritrean rebels to have captured the town on Saturday, a UN official said yesterday. But it was clear that the Eritrean People's Liberation Front had crippled government supply lines in the area and halted all famine relief work in Eritrea. Masawa was the last remaining gateway for supplies to government-held areas.

High-flyers test Ottawa air



Mr Douglas Hard, left, the Foreign Secretary, and Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, his West German opposite number, going over the issues to be raised at the international "open skies" conference in Ottawa yesterday, among them surveillance flights over Nato territory.

Hungarian rights fight

From Philip Jacobson, Timisoara

The hated red star of communism may have been scissored out of every Romanian flag flying today, but at the tiny little Cemetery of the Heroes on the outskirts of the city which first rose against Ceausescu, it still occupies a place of honour.

Several dozen men of the Red Army are buried here, each beneath a granite headstone bearing the distinctive emblem and recording that these *Necunoscuti* — Unknown Soldiers — had died during the Soviet liberation of Romania that began in 1944.

By a quirk of fate, the 10 bodies that were never identified or claimed after last December's massacre of demonstrators in Timisoara lie nearby under a mound of faded flowers.

Wandering round the cemetery, I was approached by a nattily dressed elderly man, eager to practise his English. He was almost 80, a retired lawyer who was born and bred in Timisoara.

He had seen Romania move from a monarchy that had forfeited popular support with its playboy habits to a full-scale Communist takeover, with interludes of severely flawed democracy and a fascist dictatorship. And now, he noted, "we hear from journalists like you that Romanians are standing on the threshold of truly repre-

sentative governments. I really hope so, for the sake of my grandchildren at least. But you must allow someone with my background his own doubts."

Like many professional people in Timisoara, he was an ethnic Hungarian and proud of it. About two million people of Hungarian origin lived in the west of Romania, he told me, mostly in Transylvania, and they had suffered grievously during Ceausescu's drive to crush the Magyar cultural inheritance by destroying hundreds of their villages and deporting the populations to grim "resettlement centres" far away.

The stubborn resistance to this process by the Hungarian community in towns such as Timisoara, where links to the outside world were well established, had naturally enraged the dictator.

In his view, there are already signs that renewed attempts to assert what the ethnic Hungarians regard as basic democratic rights — children taught in their own language, re-establishment of a Hungarian university, separate radio and television programmes in Hungarian — are by no means welcomed by the National Salvation Front. As the lawyer observed with a sigh: "It is never easy to be a Hungarian in Romania."

February 12 1990

PARLIAMENT

End all violence, minister begs S Africa groups

MANDELA

The steps taken by President de Klerk had created a completely new climate in South Africa, Mr William Waldegrave, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said in a Commons statement on the release of Mr Nelson Mandela.

"We warmly welcome the release of Mr Mandela," he said to cheer.

He called on all parties in South Africa to end violence and to enter into negotiations with the Government of South Africa. He gave a warning of a white backlash if recent moves were not recognized by the outside world.

Mr Waldegrave said that Mr Mandela was the symbol of the aspirations of millions of South Africans for a non-racial and democratic South Africa. Mr de Klerk had transformed policy in South Africa since he became president.

He had initiated a series of steps, including a commitment to abolish much of the so-called "petty apartheid," the "unban" of political organizations and now the release of Mr Mandela.

All of those steps had been demanded by the British Government, the international community and this House. Taken together, they had created a completely new climate in South Africa.

It was a climate in which dialogue could begin about the huge task of dismantling apartheid completely. It was a challenge for those black and whites who wished to maintain the old orthodoxy of confrontation.

It was vital to send a signal to the white community that President de Klerk's steps would find a response from the international community. That was why the Government believed

that it made sense to stop discouraging investment and tourism in South Africa (Conservative cheers and Labour protests).

Mr Gerald Kaufman, chief Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said that Labour welcomed Mr Mandela's release and other recent steps by President de Klerk. We trust that successful negotiations will soon begin to bring about a South Africa with a vote for every man and woman on a common role.

"Although Mr Mandela is no longer in prison, he is not a free man. He cannot live where he chooses, he has no vote. For him and for the rest of the non-white majority in South Africa, the whole of South Africa continues to be a prison - and will be until apartheid and the police state are completely dismantled."

At the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Kuala Lumpur in October, Mrs Margaret Thatcher had signed a statement which affirmed "that the justification for sanctions against South Africa was to abolish apartheid by bringing Pretoria to the negotiating table and keeping it there until that change was irreversibly secured."

Since that objective had clearly not been achieved, how could the Prime Minister call for relaxation of sanctions, particularly of the ban on direct investment?

Since Mr Mandela called for sanctions to be maintained, whom should be trusted - a Prime Minister whose every action had been to prop up apartheid (Conservative cheers and Labour protests) or someone who had spent 27 years and more of his life fighting apartheid?

"The world has made its choice and that is why the Prime Minister is isolated in the Commonwealth and in the EC."

"No thanks to her, but all thanks and praise to Mr Mandela and the millions of other Africans fighting for justice, apartheid is damned and apartheid will be destroyed."

Mr Waldegrave said that the sanctions that were introduced by the EC, some of which would continue, had been explicitly aimed at bringing national dialogue. Mr Mandela had said that he believed that such dialogue was about to begin.

"If we do not recognize the courage of the steps that have been taken and, I hope, will be taken by the other side, we would not be doing the right thing."

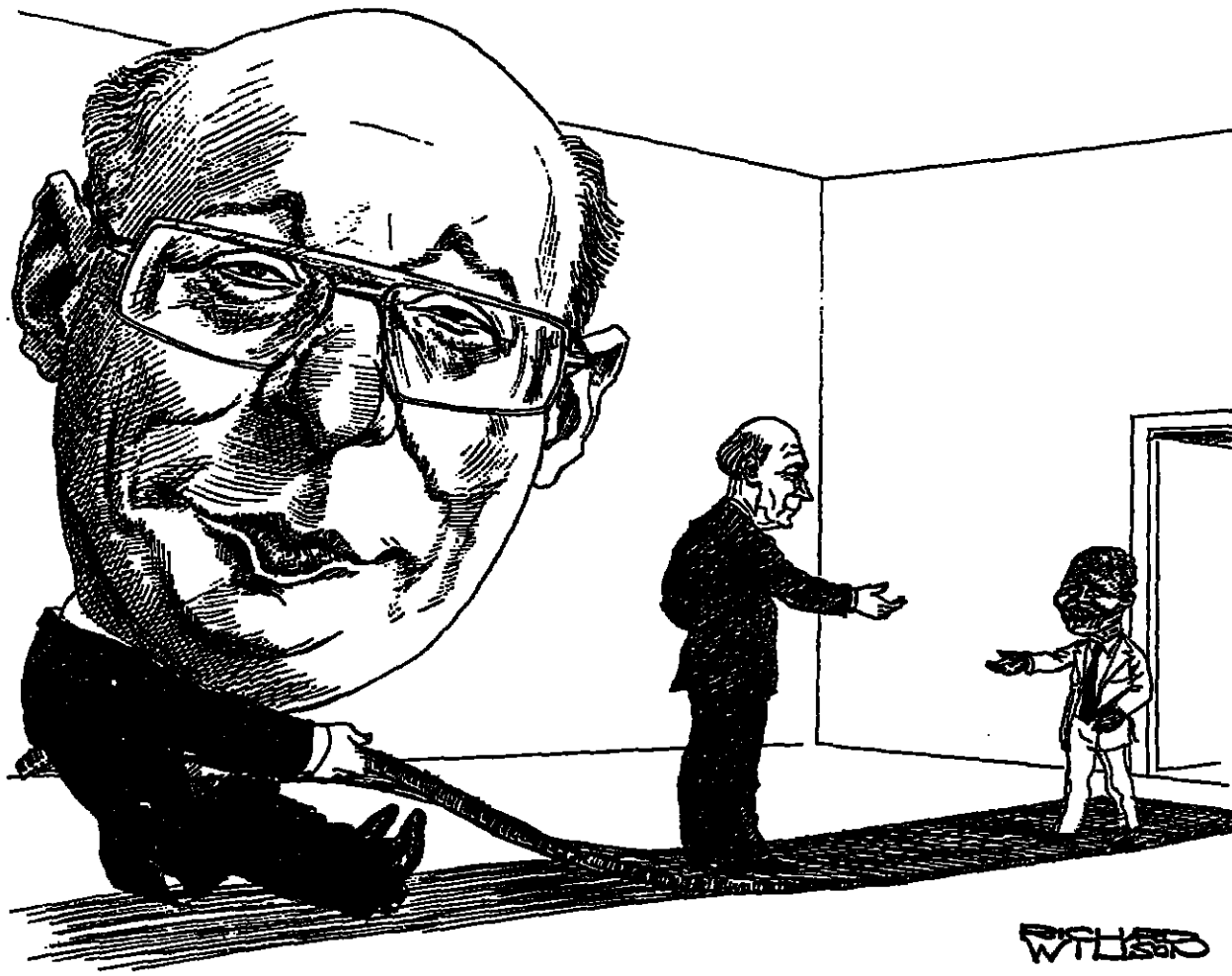
Was Labour policy to intensify sanctions? If so, Labour was as usual out of step.

Sir David Steel, Liberal Democrat spokesman on foreign affairs, said that the best way to secure British investment in South Africa was by paying more attention to the ANC and other political movements striving for democracy.

While Mr de Klerk was to be congratulated, South Africa could not be treated as a normal state until legal entrenchment of apartheid was lifted.

Mr Waldegrave: We must recognize, as in relation to the Soviet Union and the PLO, that those who wish to sit down and negotiate need our support and if we do not provide any support at all, he (Sir David) will surely blame us when the white backlash sweeps Mr de Klerk away."

Mr Robert Hughes (Aberdeen North, Lab), chairman of the Anti-Apartheid Movement, said that apartheid remained in place and until it was removed sanctions must stay. Instead of



support of President de Klerk, there should be support for the people of South Africa.

Mr Waldegrave said the people of South Africa, black and white, needed Britain's support. "There have been hands reaching out for reconciliation on both sides and it is to support that process that we have taken the steps we have."

Mr John Carlisle (Luton North, C) said that Mr Mandela's support for continuing the armed struggle was a "chilling reminder" that violence was still being used by the ANC. The lifting of sanctions would ensure the prosperity of South Africa, giving hope of peace and change.

Mr David Winnick (Walsall North, Lab) said that the police were out of control. Many appeared to have sympathy with

the right who wanted to assassinate Mr Mandela.

Mr Waldegrave said that it was right to make progress, again and again, about the behaviour of the security forces.

Ms Diane Abbott (Hackney North and Stoke Newington, Lab) said that Mrs Thatcher was widely regarded, in this country and abroad, as apartheid's fifth columnist. She had made a headlong rush to drop sanctions before there had been a word from President de Klerk about bringing down the fundamentals of apartheid or a word about one person, one vote.

She was exposed, like fifth columnists elsewhere, as redundant, marginal and out of step.

Mr Waldegrave criticized the extravagance of Ms Abbott's language. The Prime Minister was as determined as anyone to see the destruction of apartheid

Mr Cyril Townsend (Bexleyheath, C) asked that Britain's response be co-ordinated with her European partners, the Commonwealth and the United States, which had taken a strong line on sanctions.

Sanctions were imposed not for the release of one distinguished leader from prison but to help bring down the system seen by the international community as unjust.

Mr Waldegrave agreed that the objective of the House and the world was the destruction of apartheid.

The Council of Ministers, when EC sanctions were passed in 1986, had reaffirmed the economic interest of its business friends here than the interests of the South Africans.

Mr Waldegrave said that, not for the first time, Mr Benn had the wrong conspiracy theory.

that the three greatest dangers now were the extremism of the extreme left, the extremism of the extreme right and the extremism of the extremely stupid.

It would be extremely stupid, in the light of the analysis of sub-Saharan Africa by the recent report of the World Bank, to go along with the line suggested by Mr Mandela to strengthen sanctions.

The South African economy was the powerhouse of the whole of sub-Saharan Africa.

Mr Tony Benn (Chesterfield, Lab) said that the Government's position on sanctions had been motivated more to preserve the economic interest of its business friends here than the interests of the South Africans.

Mr Waldegrave said that, not for the first time, Mr Benn had the wrong conspiracy theory.

Electricity price 'should not go much above inflation'

The price of electricity to the smaller consumer should not rise by much more than the present rate of inflation this year and price controls should prevent any further real increases before the end of March 1993, Mr John Wakeham, Secretary of State for Energy, said when he announced arrangements for privatizing the electricity industry.

He hoped that the public electricity supply companies would make good reductions to customers during the period up to March 1993.

He said that the average price for all customers supplied by the public electricity supply companies would be controlled by a "Retail Price Index - X + Y" formula, where Y represented the costs to the firms of buying the electricity supplied.

In reply to questions later, he said that X would be all costs incurred by area boards other than the costs of the electricity itself, which they had to buy from the generators.

All the expectation on prices allowed for the effect of the fossil-fuel

levy which he intended to set for 1990-91 at 10.6 per cent on the value of firm sales. He expected that the rate of the levy would decline significantly over the next eight years.

The levy was not only to ensure that the output from existing and contracted committed nuclear plant in England and Wales was contracted for, but to encourage the development of commercial renewable energy sources. About 300 projects had been put forward to area boards in response to that policy.

A further two months were being allowed to area boards to complete their negotiations with renewable operators. The licences being published today would provide for orderly transition to a competitive market by allowing other suppliers to compete with area supply companies, at the outset, for large customers taking more than one megawatt; after four years, for customers taking more than 100 kilowatts; and, after eight years, for all customers.

He knew that those in the industry

were keen to be privatized to respond to the new challenges and to rid themselves of the dead hand of the public sector.

Mr Frank Dobson, Opposition spokesman on energy, said that price increases were needed only to fatten up the industry for privatization.

In the past three years coal prices had dropped by 6 per cent, electricity prices had risen by 12 per cent, and generators' profits had gone up by 9 per cent. The new coal contract envisaged further cuts in the price of coal, so why was it necessary to have any price increases for consumers?

Did the licences put an obligation to supply on the two main generating companies? If not, how could there be any security of supply?

The interests of domestic and industrial consumers, the balance of payments and the environment were all being put second to the require-

ment put on Mr Wakeham by the Prime Minister to get the industry sold off as quickly as possible.

Mr Wakeham said that the intention was to privatize the industry at a proper and fair price.

He did not expect that, on average, there would be any price increases in real terms at all.

The cost of nuclear power was paid for by consumers in their bills now. This was simply being brought out into the open.

On the obligation to supply and security of supply, the arrangements under the Electricity Act were rather better than the previous ones which had been too bureaucratic.

In the past 10 years there had been a big improvement in energy efficiency, and the proposals would improve the situation.

Mr John Hanning (Exeter, C) said that not long ago Labour was predicting price increases after privatization of more than 20 per cent. It was now grumbling because they might be pegged to the level of

inflation, something Labour never achieved.

Mr Peter Hardy (Wentworth, Lab) said that over the past 12 months, and for some time ahead, every domestic electricity quarterly bill would be at least £10 higher because of preparation for privatization.

Sir Trevor Skeet (North Bedfordshire, C) said that it was important to bear in mind the future size of the nuclear industry, and not wait until the review in 1994 when it might be too late. The nuclear power stations had to be built and required a research and development programme, otherwise it could leave Britain in great difficulty.

Mr Wakeham said that the good level of management being organized would mean that nuclear capacity was used to best advantage in the period up to 1994. There was a long-term role for nuclear power.

The price increases included the non-fossil fuel obligations, he said later.

Mr Charles Kennedy (Ross, Crom-

arty and Skye, Lib Dem) said that all the tough political decisions had been postponed beyond the date of the next election.

In a later reply, Mr Wakeham said that the Government would achieve the EC directive on reducing polluting power station emissions, and would be seen to achieve it, but it would do it in a way that was not the most sensible way.

After the statement had been repeated in the House of Lords, Lord Williams of Elvel, Opposition spokesman on energy, said that the Government's declaration that it accepted price rises was encouraging inflation psychology. The CEB had the advantage of price agreements with British Coal, so why was it necessary to have price increases at all?

Viscount Ulswater, for the Government, said that prices would rise at only the rate of inflation or thereabouts, but prices were still lower in real terms than five years ago.

Mr Charles Kennedy (Ross, Crom-

arty and Skye, Lib Dem) said that all the tough political decisions had been postponed beyond the date of the next election.

In a later reply, Mr Wakeham said that the Government would achieve the EC directive on reducing polluting power station emissions, and would be seen to achieve it, but it would do it in a way that was not the most sensible way.

After the statement had been repeated in the House of Lords, Lord Williams of Elvel, Opposition spokesman on energy, said that the Government's declaration that it accepted price rises was encouraging inflation psychology. The CEB had the advantage of price agreements with British Coal, so why was it necessary to have price increases at all?

Viscount Ulswater, for the Government, said that prices would rise at only the rate of inflation or thereabouts, but prices were still lower in real terms than five years ago.

Mr Charles Kennedy (Ross, Crom-

Bridge debt now £342m

The accumulated debt of the Humber Bridge is £342 million, Mr Robert Atkins, Under Secretary of State for Transport, said at a question time. The bridge board was preparing a detailed case for government assistance.

Mr James Cran (Beverley, C) said that the saga of the bridge had gone on too long. Next year the accumulated debt was projected to rise to £400 million without interest charges adding £1 a second. As everyone believed that this should be resolved, including the Government, what was the impediment?

Mr Atkins said that the Government hoped to take a decision in the not-too-distant future.

Mrs Joan Ruddock, an Opposition spokesman on transport, said that the policy of charging



Mrs Ruddock: Time for toll policy to be reviewed.

tolls was not a success. Where tolls could pay, as in Dartford, they caused congestion. Where they did not, they forced op-

erators to raise payments to a level that was a grave disincentive to local business, as in Humberstone and Merseyside. It was time the Government reviewed its policy on tolls.

Mr Atkins said that the Humber Bridge had been built by Barbara Castle to ensure a by-election victory for Labour in Hull. Typically it was now costing properly and never, ever will make money. The taxpayer may therefore have to pay some of the bill.

Mr Peter Smeeth, an Opposition spokesman on transport, had said earlier that the Midlands was grateful for the multi-million pound cross-Birmingham electrification scheme announced last week. He understood it had no connection with the pending Mid-Staffordshire by-election.

There was a crisis in the legal aid system, with fewer and fewer people qualifying for help. Mr Keith Vaz (Leicester East, Lab) said when he opened a debate on legal services.

Parliament was giving people rights which they could not afford to enforce, he said.

Mr Vaz criticised the public funding of the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS). That had been astonishing and the only people who could have an interest in the quarrel were criminals.

From birth, the CPS had suffered from gross under-resourcing and under-staffing. More than £40 million had been paid to private agency lawyers in the past three years because of the shortage of CPS staff.

There was a crisis in the

LAW SERVICES

provision of legal aid. In the past 10 years, 15 million people had lost the right to qualify.

Eight per cent fewer people were entitled to the "green form" scheme compared with 1987-88 - the largest and only the second drop in the scheme.

There was a 3 per cent drop in civil legal aid certificates over the same period, whereas previously there had been a steady increase in "fewer and fewer citizens qualify."

This year, 56 per cent of the population was eligible whereas in 1979, the figure had been 79 per cent.

"Justice is being cash limited. I call it justice-capping. Yet never before has there been such

a need for people to be given proper legal advice and assistance."

The duty solicitor scheme was in danger of collapse and he was concerned at the way in which contracting out of legal services was to be operated.

"Franchises might be appropriate for McDonald's but I do not believe it is good enough for justice to be created as a junk food chain."

Justice could be made available quickly to people only if the legal system worked. The Crown Prosecution Service, legal aid system, public solicitors scheme, county courts and magistrates' courts were not working efficiently or effectively. Parliament must ensure that these problems were resolved with a minimum of delay.

Mr David Martin (Port-

smouth South, C) defended the Lord Chancellor (Lord Mackay of Clashfern) against attacks on the Courts and Legal Services Bill. He accused the Bar and the judiciary of using the public interest as an army might use women and children to defend itself against attack. It was bunkum to say that the Lord Chancellor had attacked the independence of the judiciary, or that that amounted to an attack on liberty.

Mr John Fraser, an Opposition spokesman on legal affairs, welcomed recent changes in eligibility for legal aid but said that they did not go far enough.

In the past two years a million households and 2.5 million people had ceased to be eligible. That was because the increase in legal aid limits had not kept pace with inflation or earnings.

Mr David Martin (Port-

Authors to get a '29% pay rise'

There is to be a 29 per cent increase in 1991-92 in government funding of the public lending right by which authors are paid for the borrowing of their books from public libraries.

Mr Richard Luce, Minister for the Arts, announcing the increase during a question time, said that funding in 1990-91 would be £3.5 million and about 15,500 authors would receive payment in February 1991.

Mr Anthony Benn (Birmingham, Selkirk, C) said that Salman Rushdie would benefit. Did Mr Luce agree with the saying: I may not agree with his words, but I will defend to the death his right to say them?

Mr Luce: A cardinal principle of our democracy is freedom of expression.

Manchester trains plea

The Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Authority was failing to deliver adequate services and should get extra funds, Mr Andrew Bennett (Denton and Reddish, Lab) said at a question time. During the last 12 months there had been a succession of late and cancelled trains. "There ought to be a refund and a cutting of fares, not an increase."

Mr Michael Portillo, Minister for Public Transport, said that he had a great deal of sympathy with the delays. It was not for him to attribute blame, but the "sprinter" trains should be delivered in early spring and the summer and should improve services.

Ivory sales assurance

The Government was satisfied that its arrangements for the sale of the remaining 474 tonnes of ivory in Hong Kong were sufficiently tight to ensure that no illegally acquired ivory would get on to the market, Lord Rooker, Government spokesman, told peers during a question time.

He said that vigorous controls were in force. Apart from the ban on the international commercial trade, every trader had to register stocks above a kilo and had to possess a licence for that stock. They also had to receive a licence to export ivory. All exports had to be registered.

Promotion for women

A prediction that many more women would reach senior levels of the Civil Service in the next decade was given by Mr Richard Luce, Minister for the Civil Service, at a question time. He told MPs that, although there were 265,000 women in the service at present, constituting 45 per cent of the total, only 6 per cent in the top grades were female.

"Looking ahead to the longer term and into the 1990s, I am quite sure that a lot more women will come to the top."

Australia Bill

Mr Alf Morris's Public Records Act 1958 (Amendment) Bill, which would allow the permanent loan or gift to Australia of the eighteenth-century document that established it as a nation, was presented to the Commons.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Employment; Prime Minister. Debate on Government's expenditure plans. Lords (2.30): Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bill, committee, third day.

Soviet economists seek Labour help

By Nigel Williamson, Political Staff

Soviet economists experts have sought the advice of the Labour Party in their plans to move towards a mixed economy.

Mr Christopher Smith, the junior Labour Treasury spokesman, who has just returned from a conference between leading Soviet economists and representatives of 10 West European socialist parties in Moscow, told a press conference at Westminster yesterday that the Soviet side had wanted to discuss how to give greater emphasis to free-market activity while retaining a "substantial role for the state in providing the basic infrastructure."

Mr Smith said: "They want a sensible balance between public and private, and in this respect they are heading exactly in the mainstream of European democratic-socialist thinking."

He said that Soviet economists were anxious to "cut experts" from democratic socialist rather than from "unbridled" capitalists in their efforts to implement perestroika.

Mr Smith said that he and other West European socialists had urged a rethink of the Soviet

taxation system which penalizes efficiency and subsidizes inefficiency and had urged a range of other measures to encourage long-term investment, including special bond issues and regional investment banks.

The conference was organized through the Socialist International, and it is hoped that meetings will be arranged between Mr Smith, shadow Chancellor, and Soviet experts.

Mr Christopher Smith said: "There was a breathtaking openness to new thinking in the discussions we had. Leading Soviet spokesmen were saying things which would have been unthinkable two years ago."

"They are aware of the enormous problems they face and the acute difficulties in implementing perestroika. But they are also clear that they do not want the Adam Smith Institute simplifications - that pure market forces will always act in a beneficial way."

Mr Smith said that there was great potential for Western investment in the Soviet economy and that a Labour government would use trading policy to promote joint ventures.

Waddington's support expected New death penalty debate likely

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

The House of Commons is expected to have a further vote on capital punishment in the 1990-91 session, in theory giving MPs the chance of restoring the death penalty for murder.

The House Office is expected to produce a comprehensive Bill in the autumn, implementing the proposals in the Government's recent White Paper, *Crime, Justice and Protecting the Public*, and MPs in favour of the death penalty are planning to move a new clause to the Bill at report stage.

Mr David Waddington, the first Home Secretary for many years to be in favour of the death penalty, is expected to support the move, but he accepts that there is unlikely to be any change in the law as a result.

The death penalty for murder was finally abolished in Britain in 1969 and in five votes in the past nine years attempts at restoration have failed by large majorities on every occasion.

In April 1987, the Commons rejected a call to bring back the death penalty for "evil" murders by 342 votes to 230, a majority against restoration of 112.

When MPs argued that that was not a fair test, as some had objected that defining an "evil" murder was too complicated for a jury, a further test was arranged at the report stage of the Criminal Justice Bill in June 1988. That came after a promise by Mr Douglas Hurd, who was then Home

Secretary, to have the opinion of the Commons tested on the issue.

On that occasion a simple call for the restoration of the death penalty as the maximum penalty for murder was defeated by 341 votes to 218, a majority of 123, with the Cabinet split ten to five against restoration.

After that result on a traditional free vote in the most Thatcherite Parliament we are likely to see for some time, proponents of the death penalty conceded that it was difficult to see any events leading to its restoration in the foreseeable future.

Restoration was rejected in earlier votes after Mrs Thatcher came to power by majorities of 152, 129 and 119. In July 1983, there were majorities of 145 against the death penalty in general, 116 against its restoration for terrorists and 81, the lowest figure, against its restoration for those who kill police officers on duty.

A new book on the worldwide use of the death penalty, by Mr Roger Hood, Reader in Criminology at Oxford University and a UN adviser on crime prevention, reveals that only four states in Western Europe retain the death penalty for ordinary offences and that the last execution in one of those, Turkey, took place in 1984.

In the world as a whole, 27 countries have abolished the death penalty in the past 24 years and 9 more are *de facto* abolitionist. But two formerly abolitionist countries have

reinstated the death penalty and thirteen others which had appeared to be *de facto* abolitionist have executed people.

In China the official policy is one of "killing only a few". Over 23 years, 54 retentionist countries have increased the range of crimes punishable by death, in 22 cases for drug offences and in 6 for sex offences. But the number of executions has declined steadily since 1981, largely due to less use of them by countries which had executed the most.

In the past 10 years public executions have taken place in 22 countries.

On the question of deterrence, Mr Hood says that it has been shown that, even where the rate of homicide has increased after abolition, it has lagged well behind the increase in other violent crimes.

"Comparative studies of neighbouring retentionist and abolitionist states in the United States of America have confirmed the earlier findings that abolition is not associated with higher homicide rates in general or more murders of police or prison officers."

While admitting that most studies have methodological flaws, Mr Hood concludes: "The evidence as a whole still gives no positive support to the deterrent hypothesis."

The Death Penalty: A Worldwide Perspective by Roger Hood (Oxford University Press, £17.50).

BR chief attacked on fares policy

The chairman of British Rail, Sir Robert Reid, was criticized at a question time by Labour MPs for his fares and advertising policies.

Mr Peter Smeeth, an Opposition spokesman on transport, described as disgraceful comments that long-distance commuters had to pay increases of 40 per cent on what were already the highest fares in Europe.

Such stupid and ill informed comments would not endear the Conservatives to those commuters in the South-east who had voted for them for years.

Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Transport, said that the previous Secretary of State for Transport (Mr Paul Channon) had said that long distance commuters, representing 18,000 of British Rail's commuters or 0.5 per cent, were getting discounts of more than 60 per cent on their season tickets. They were paying less for their journey than discounted off-peak tickets.

Mr Channon had felt that the gap should be narrowed, although not closed. Rises this year were 30.5 per cent.

Mr Marilyn Rees (Leeds South and Morley, Lab) congratulated the chairman of Brit-

ish Rail on the excellent advertisements for InterCity trains but said that they bore no relationship to reality. It would be helpful for travellers from Leeds to know that the trains were not going to be on time, that they would have to change at Doncaster and would arrive an-hour-and-a-half late.

Mr Parkinson said that the new objectives for British Rail were not only financial but also included punctuality and cleanliness. British Rail's performance against those objectives would be published.

● M25 PLAN: An action plan for the M25 would be issued soon by the Government, following the consultants' review, which would propose further improvements. Mr Robert Atkins, Minister for Roads and Traffic, said at questions.

Mr John Marshall (Hendon South, C) said that the M25 was Britain's longest traffic jam. By the twenty-first century the proposed widening to four lanes would not be adequate. The Government should build a "son of M25", an outer one, to relieve the congestion.

Mr Atkins said that the motorway was a victim of its own success.

SPECTRUM

The Chancellor's new clothes

GRAHAM WOOD

The man who guided Britain's economic fortune for most of the past decade tells Barbara Amiel about MPs and money, 'sanctimonious humbug' and the politics of envy

THE TIMES

INTERVIEW

I met Nigel Lawson in his City office at the headquarters of Barclay's Bank. It was only his second day in the job and his new secretary was extremely worried. She shared a little woman-to-woman moment with me. "I work for another man here as well," she said, "and Mr Lawson hasn't told me a thing about what he wants. I don't even know what days he will be coming in." I had a feeling that his best behaviour notwithstanding, Lawson might not approve of shared confidences from his secretary. Very soon, I assured her, she would be hearing precisely what he wanted.

I cannot remember what he was wearing, not a single detail, only an impression. The impression comes from walking behind him and it is of a pair of trousers and 'sack of ample size and extensive crumpling, walking about, flapping, quite independently of their owner. It was rather like Gogol's short story about the man who wakes up and finds his nose has gone off in his best suit. I can't think why one has this impression of Lawson unless it is that his lack of interest in matters of style is so genuine that his clothes have noticed it and gone their own way. Some people, of course, make a snobbish point with a seeming sartorial indifference. In Lawson's case, I think it is a simple matter of a man of considerable intellect who can only be interested in so many things. It happens that he is not interested in crochets or clothing.

He is not much interested in talking about personal matters, either. There has been a lot of critical press comment about his new directorships and the money he is earning. "I don't want this to be a dominant thing," he said as I pressed him for a comment on the ruckus. "But I think we've been treated to a dose of the sort of sanctimonious humbug which is characteristic of sections of the British Press. It is the politics of envy and an awful lot of humbug. Everybody knows that people get paid all different salaries, that newspaper editors don't do all that badly, but it's a sort of nauseating form of demagoguery."

Weren't nasty headlines in the tabloid Press more painful for his young children and family than for him, I asked. I believe I spotted a reaction in his face, but all he said was that he really didn't like pleading and could we move on. He is, one suspects, putty in the hands of his family, or how else could he have been persuaded to dress up as a Carnaby Street dandy and face seeing his picture in velvet trousers in the Press? "It was fancy dress for a Sixties party," he said, adding "not that I have any great affinity for it, although I think my wife does have more. Bravery comes more naturally to me than dressing up."

Bravery in charting unknown waters, I should think. Economic textbooks do not have chapters on what to do with privatization and its proceeds, or measures for finance ministers to take when, having put on the brakes by raising interest rates, consumers go on spending.

"There was nothing written about it, nothing at all," he said.

"We were doing things that had never been done before, which is quite unusual in government. Usually when a new government comes in and says, 'We want to do X', then the officials can drag out a file from a dusty cupboard which has got all the accumulated civil service wisdom on X, but privatization wasn't like that at all. They started from a blank sheet and they had no dusty files in the cupboard."

"To some extent we learnt as we went along, but we were immensely successful. Successful by whatever yardstick you choose. Successful in the sense that we have privatized getting on for what was 50 per cent of the state-owned sector and put it now in the private sector, where it is doing very much better as a result. The fact is that other countries throughout the world have sought to emulate us, indeed come here to see how it was done, and that in techniques of privatization we have been innovative."

At this point, Lawson's well-known eye for detail became manifest as he fixed my tape recorder with it and insisted that it wasn't working. I couldn't detect an error but he continued to insist several times that the machine was faulty. Was this gamemanship (he had, after all, already prefaced a remark with "I don't know how long you have been in this country, but...") or an example of his overwhelming confidence in all matters? Ten minutes later the machine did go on the blink and Lawson had shown his presence. I should have listened to him. I wondered how the Prime Minister had handled his confident corrections.

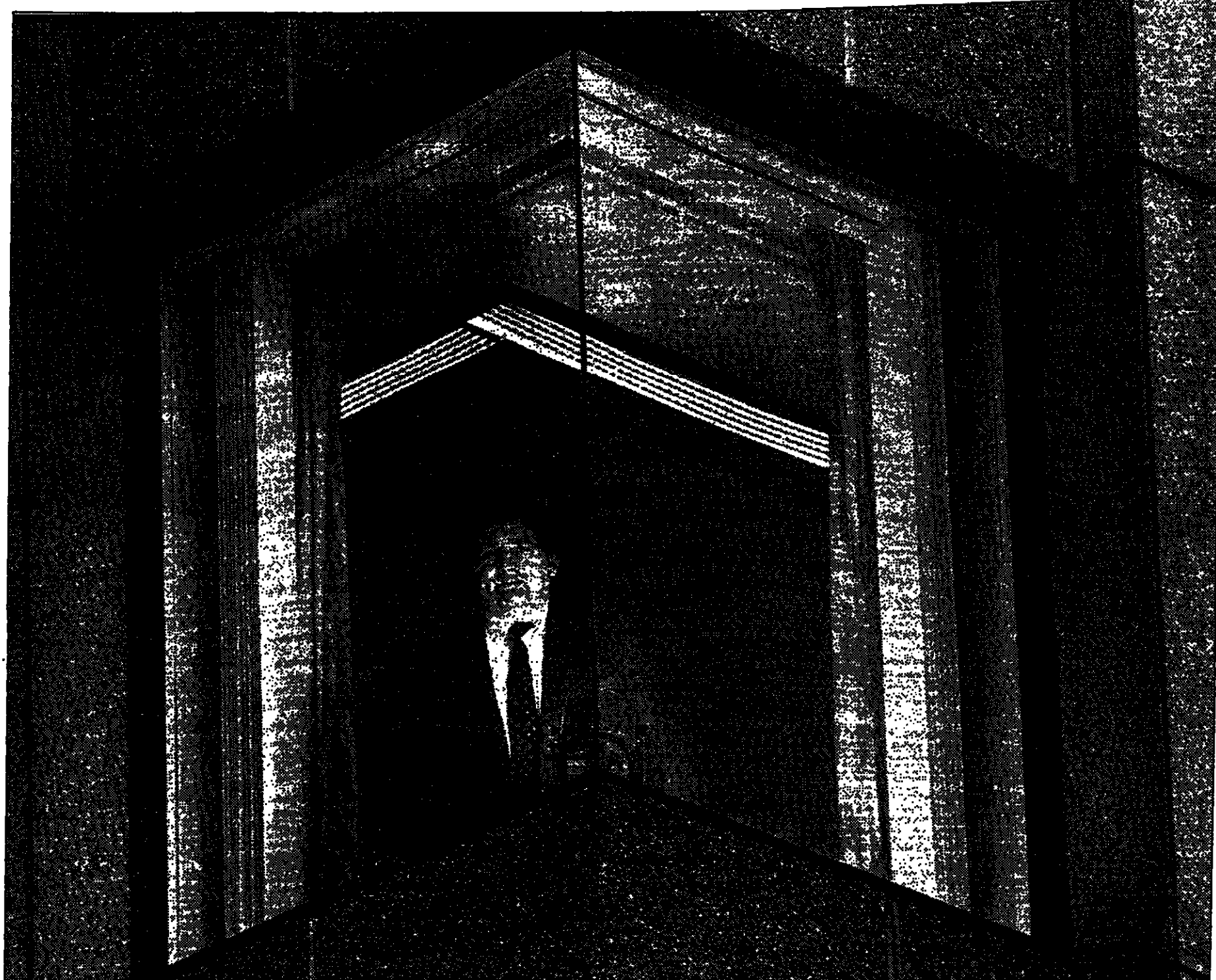
"I don't want to go into that," he said when asked about his relationship with Mrs Thatcher. "Although we are different in many ways, in fact our political thinking is much more alike than her political thinking is to many of my colleagues. Although we did have certain well-publicized differences, in fact the areas of agreement are very much larger."

Who did he think would be Mrs Thatcher's successor? "I don't think it is a live issue," he replied. Would he wish to re-enter government? "In politics, the unexpected always happens," he said, "and you just have to see how events unfold."

Lawson never appeared to be hungry for the leadership. "If I'd had political ambition, I think I would have got into politics earlier. I was over 40 when I first became a member of the House of Commons, which is relatively late. I didn't go into politics with any great ambition at all, it was to be Chancellor of the Exchequer and I never expected that ambition to be fulfilled."

As Chancellor, Lawson presided over the most successful economic boom in modern Britain and it is certainly fair to credit him with an important role in creating the international strategies that checked the great crash of 1987. Could that have turned into a real depression, I asked.

"I certainly believe that had the major nations not taken action, nothing would have definitely happened but the risk of a world



A face at the window: Nigel Lawson says that since he ceased being Chancellor no new measures have been taken and "everybody now accepts that things are sorting themselves out"

spiral into a major depression was a real one. It was not just a question of people spending but of a real collapse of confidence throughout the western industrialized world... The Press was not helping because it was writing as if it was a foregone conclusion that we were going to see the Thirties over again. I think one had to take counter-action and, of course, now that is blamed for having caused the slight upsurge in inflation. But I think if I had my time again, I would have done the same thing again because I think it was right."

But did his loosening of credit, in order to restore confidence, last just a little too long?

"Yes, well, maybe. But subsequently, there was substantial tightening up and, indeed, since I ceased being Chancellor no new measures have been taken. Everybody now accepts that things are sorting themselves out."

Was it much harder to be a monetarist in practice than in theory?

"Yes, that is particularly true if another of your ideas is freedom and deregulation, which it certainly was. The more freedom you create, the more you deregulate. The paradox is, the harder it is to conduct the policies because people use all their imagination to find other ways of doing things and the statistics never quite catch up with what people are doing in the real world... I've always been guided by two principles: because the thing is very difficult to do doesn't mean you shouldn't try, and the second principle is

that you do learn from experience. Now I've been accused of inconsistency. It doesn't worry me greatly, because it hasn't seemed to me inconsistency, it seemed to me changing my mind and adapting to changing conditions."

Those changing conditions include a changing idea of Europe. Lawson is opposed to European monetary union but he is in favour of a "sooner rather than later" approach to the exchange rate mechanism. This, of course, is part of his fundamental disagreement with the Prime Minister, who sees the loss of control over interest rates and the management of debt and credit as a fundamental threat to national sovereignty. How, I asked, can we join the European Monetary System and retain national sovereignty?

"The answer," Lawson said, "is the same way as other countries. At any point they have a choice. The same way as when countries were on the gold standard. Countries believed it was in their interest to stay on the gold standard but they always had the opportunity to leave it. Fundamental issues of sovereignty are at stake only when an irreversible change occurs and an irreversible transfer of power."

His own view of the new Europe, about which he is enthusiastic, is thrown into relief by his opinions on the prospect of a united Germany. "This unification is going to come," Lawson said, "and it is quite foolish to stand in its way. On the monetary side, it has a great significance. The monetary union that is now

I've always been guided by two principles: because the thing is very difficult doesn't mean you shouldn't try, and you learn from experience'

proposed is explicitly the precursor of full political union and the main reason why I have been opposed to European monetary union is because I don't want to see European political union. I want to see a community, not a single state, which is what is going to happen to Germany. It does mean, of course, that in order to preserve a proper balance in the community, Britain and France will have to become much closer."

Politicians, like all other human beings, have varying degrees of philosophical and intellectual inclinations. Most politicians, like most dentists or factory managers, would not, for example, spend much time worrying about original sin. But Lawson, whose conservatism is tinged with

Friedrich von Hayek's libertarianism, enjoys moving from practical talk to the abstract world of ideas. "I do believe in original sin," he said when I asked him if the end of communism meant the end of evil. "I believe that you are born sinful and that there will always be sin in this world."

It is in this sense that he sees conservatism as the politics of imperfection, taking a realistic view of human nature. Intrigued, I asked him if he was an agnostic, knowing that he was not a practising Jew. It turned out to be an ineluctable question. "I'd rather not talk about that area if you don't mind," he said. Then I remembered that his wife and children are practising Catholics and I realized that his evasiveness was based on a profound sensitivity towards their beliefs. It also suggested that his own moral sense was probably humanist-based.

We were talking about salaries of Members of Parliament. I think, when a photographer from *The Times* appeared. I had been advancing the idea of *noblesse oblige* as a good reason for politicians to have modest salaries. Lawson felt that modest salaries were costing the Government good people and mentioned Lord Gower, who resigned as arts minister in 1985, complaining he could not manage on his £33,000-a-year salary. Then he spoke of himself.

"I obviously am now earning a substantial amount," he said, "but I sacrificed far more financially during those 10 years with the Government. Now, it would be a

terrible thing if people went into politics, as they do in some countries where corruption is rife, for what they could get out of it. But there's quite a large gap between that state of affairs and what we have in Britain today." The idea of *noblesse oblige* in government, Lawson argued, automatically creates a civil service ethos which is hostile to wealth. "The capitalist system is seen as something rather grubby. If you say nobility is associated with low pay, then it is a very easy transition to say that those who are on large salaries, those who do what they are doing for the money, are ignoble."

It was at that point that the photographer began to try to set up Lawson's photograph. The office was barely furnished. "I haven't kitted it up yet," Lawson said. Apart from a bookcase, empty except for *Who's Who*, there was only his desk. Lawson refused to be photographed behind him. "People will guess I have a desk," he said caustically. The photographer had a shot from behind it in mind. "Front or behind, it's still a desk," Lawson said. "I think we've done enough."

Lawson's acute dislike of being photographed is well-known. One couldn't help but feel sympathy for him. "I sometimes sound pompous," he had volunteered earlier, looking very at ease. Now he looked so discomfited. "I hate being a performing monkey," he said with real feeling. And then, with immense politeness, he took the photographer's direction and performed perfectly.

BACK PAIN?

HERE'S YOUR ANSWER!

Years of experience tell us that standard beds may not be right for everyone. One partner may receive excellent support. The other aches and pains.

WHAT'S THE ANSWER?
A Bed from OBAS, the Orthopaedic Bedding Advisory Service. A double bed with two entirely different types of spring to suit the exact needs of each partner. Matching individual body contours. Easing them gently into the right positions. Keeping the spine relaxed and flexible. Helping lift the pressure off bones, muscles, tendons, nerve endings and joints.

AS
SEEN ON
TV!

Our surgical orthopaedic technicians and professionally qualified consultants have designed thousands of single and double OBAS beds on the weight, shape and medical history of individual customers. If you have a back problem contact OBAS NOW!

For your colour brochure return coupon (no stamp required) to: OBAS, Dept 11, FREEPOST, OBAS House, London E3 4BR. Now available in Northern Ireland and Eire.

TO: OBAS, Dept 11, FREEPOST, OBAS House, London E3 4BR

I am interested in knowing more about Orthopaedic beds. ☐ Medibeds ☐ I understand there is no obligation at all and

Name (Mr/Ms/Ms) Address BLOCK CAPITALS

Postcode

OBAS
ORTHOPAEDIC
AND
MEDIBEDS

Believe it, or believe it not

Leaving a newspaper office at night is as difficult as finding your way back up out of Avernus. The telephone always rings. There is always somebody who wants something, something else to be done.

I was making a dash for the door the other night, when Marit stopped me and asked: "Is there any difference between a pagan and a heathen?" (Oh, we discuss more than the racing and other news of the moment at Wapping, I can tell you.) At her German class they had said that there is no word for "pagan" in German, and that there is no difference between the two words in English.

This cannot be quite true. No two words are *exactly* the same, though in this Venn diagram the circles overlap to a considerable extent. Let us see whether we can find one of those fine distinctions that make English the richest language in the world.

Both words overlap in meaning somebody belonging to a religion or culture different from one's own, which in this case (because the words are English) usually means a non-Christian. Both words have long and interesting histories, during which their meanings and accretions of connotations have naturally changed, so constantly shifting the Venn diagram.

Heathen was marked for life by being selected by the translators of the Old Testament in the Authorized Version: "Why do the

heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing?" "Deliver us from the heathen." "I will execute vengeance in anger and fury upon the heathen, such as they have not heard."

The word means a heath-dweller: somebody who lives in waste land, a primitive savage. There is a cognate connection with the Greek *ethnos*, a people, from which we get the fashionable word *ethnic*.

It is a strong, disapproving word, mainly because of its resonances from King James's 47 revisers of Tyndale and Wyclif. Religious bigotry is always with us, but the Crusades are over.

It would be difficult for anybody except a hardened bigot to use *heathen* today without offending somebody somewhere, and other than jocularly. "The heathen in his blindness bows down to wood and stone." It is a narrow word, confined to lesser breeds without the Law, who do not believe in Christianity, or did not believe in Jehovah.

Pagan is a broader and softer

NEW WORDS FOR OLD

Philip reckons a heathen has something to do with living in Hampstead



word. It also refers to people who are not Christian, maybe through no fault of their own, because, like Socrates or Virgil, they were born too early. It is used mainly to mean the ancient Greeks and Romans, and therefore it does not carry the connotations of primitive savagery that encumber *heathen*.

It also means a villager, countryman, rustic, civilian, from the Latin *paganus*, a rural district, originally a village boundary mark fixed in the earth, from *pangere*, to fix. Gibbon nods when he suggests that the word comes from the Doric *page*, a fountain. The doublet of *pagan* is "peasant" and its cognates in modern European languages.

With the great increase of a standing army under the Roman Empire, *pagan* was adopted as the name for a civilian, as the correlative of *miles*, a soldier.

The early Christians called themselves *milites*, the "enrolled soldiers" of Christ. And their adversaries who refused his sacrament, or "military" oath of

baptism, deserved the contemptuous metaphorical name of *paganus*, i.e. civilians. This use of *pagan* to mean non-Christian was introduced as early as the reign of Valentinian (AD 365) into the imperial laws. This led Gibbon and his successors to point out that Christianity was originally a religion of the cities and of townsmen, while the old religion(s) lingered on in the sticks and the boondocks. Accordingly, they made a nice connection between *pagan* as civilian non-Christian, and *pagan* as rustic peasant. Unfortunately, it will not connect. The use of *pagan* to mean non-Christian is found in Tertullian about AD 202, long before Christianity was accepted as the state religion in the towns and cities of the Roman Empire. *Pagan* in this sense has been found in an epitaph of the second century.

All these religious labels are dodgy value words. Like all value words, they depend upon where you are standing. But *pagan* today seems a pretty neutral word to apply to somebody who does not care much for metaphysical matters, and prefers a life of the intellect and the senses. There is (alas, mercifully!) no room to discuss the other words in this Venn diagram, such as *Gentile*, *barbarian*, *infidel*, *idolater*, *heretic*, *philistine*, etc. *ad nauseum*. Will that do, Marit?

Philip Howard

هكذا من الأصل

THE ARTS

It's a long, long trail a-winding

TELEVISION
Sheridan Morley

On what promised to be a television night almost entirely devoted to local police corruption, with hour-long specials on both *World in Action* and *Panorama* (at least until Nelson Mandela cut a freedom trail through the scheduling) some of us had even more important matters to attend to. Over on BBC 2, *Wainwright's Coast to Coast Walk* was at last nearing completion.

A month of Mondays ago, you may just recall, Alfred the great pedestrian and Eric Robson his ceaselessly chattering sidekick set out to plod their way across England from the Irish to the North Sea. At that time, I suggested they were like something out of a minor Flaubert play. By the end, they had become positively Beckettian, with Wainwright sinking ever further into monosyllables and the expectation of Godot looming around every crag.

Robson veered from dramatized readings of an AA Roadbook ("We are handy for the A19 here") to Wordsworthian observations on the nature of nature. Presumably, if the hard himself had arrived around the corner with a bunch of his beloved daffodils, Robson would have asked precisely how many there were and how long they had taken him to grow.

Every 20 seconds or so, Eric would enquire pathetically of his companion as to where they had just come from or whether they were about to journey onwards. Wainwright however, stuck to his monosyllables, only breaking into lengthy sentences to describe the delights of a monastery where the inmates were, he said, looking sharply at Robson, never allowed to speak at all.

By now it was clear that the two of them belonged in a sitcom about an odd couple of compulsive hikers unable to communicate except in the most elementary or coded of fashion. "Great sense of space here," said Robson staring broadly out at yet another expanse of rain-soaked nothingness. "Stop drop on the other side, though," said Wainwright, apparently contemplating the possibilities of a nasty accident.

"If we carry on up this path," asked Robson indefinitely, "where do we end up?" "Near the railway," said Wainwright, and sure enough we were then off on the ritual 10-minute detour about the ancient joys of steam.

Once, Robson blew his nose, thereby elevating the series to a level of high drama unachieved elsewhere. "Enjoying it?" asked Wainwright. But answer for once came there none. Then they found a sign about nesting birds being an endangered species, and Wainwright ventured that 3,000 grouse had been shot there during the previous season. "No wonder the buggers keep their heads down," said Robson mournfully, one endangered species recognizing another.

After that, they came to a boulder with a hole carved inside it which Robson reckoned would be "a glimpse of heaven for nerve-frayed city dwellers". Quite why nerve-frayed city-dwellers would ever want to sit in a boulder with a hole through it was never explained. But then again this has always been a mysterious series. The terrible thing is that now they have gone, I think I am going to miss them.

Simon Crine, the director of the National Campaign for the Arts, is leaving his post tomorrow. Today he sends an open letter of farewell to his long-term sparring partner Richard Luce, the Minister for the Arts and Civil Service

Just a word before I go



Simon Crine: seeking small sums

Y ou, Arts Minister, have been in the firing line for most of my five years as Director of the National Campaign for the Arts, so it is to you that I address my parting thoughts. We both came in as outsiders — neither of us has ever earned a living from anything more creative than politics or journalism. Arts Ministers used to come and go quite quickly, especially under Mrs Thatcher, so it must be comforting for you to outlast yet another of your sparring partners.

The National Campaign for the Arts came into being in 1985 to give concrete expression to the arts world's lack of faith in the Recs-Mogg Arts Council, and to their fears for public funding after the abolition of the municipal Greater London Council and metropolitan county councils. It was the time when your predecessor, Lord Gowrie, was slugging it out in public with arts grandees such as Sir Peter Hall and Sir Denis Forman. Five years on, the arts survive mainly thanks to their own resilience but also because you have had a couple of triumphs over the Treasury.

That could have been the excuse for the Campaign to fade away, yet, paradoxically, the Campaign is stronger than ever. New theatres, orchestras and galleries, as

well as individuals join every week. I think that tells us something about the state of the arts today. Even now, when you have just managed to bring a 12 per cent increase out of the Treasury, artists and everyone who enjoys the arts, know that £400 million does not go very far, especially outside London. In any case it may well, despite Kent Opera and now the RSC, be a case of too little too late. Compare that with what the Mitterrand government is spending across the Channel. The truth is that the arts remain as "irresponsibly underfunded" today as they were when that notable, all-party Select Committee reported to your predecessor in 1982.

I know you say, I know you have to say, that there is a limit to what the taxpayer can afford to spend on the arts and that it is up to the theatres and dance companies to make more money for themselves if they want to expand. There can be little doubt that business sponsorship has gone up quite substantially over the last five years, and that it makes a useful addition to the finances of those who receive it. I also know

largest component of any self-respecting arts organization's income) or for public funding.

May I also counsel you not to get too bogged down in fiddling about with structures? I know you are thinking about reorganizing the Arts Council, the Crafts Council and the regional arts associations, following the Wilding Report last year. Of course, the Arts Council is not perfect. Ever an empire-builder, it is inclined to overreach itself and it is far too swayed by the latest fashion — currently marketing, soon to be 1992. Nor do I buy any of this "arms-length" nonsense about the Council's neutrality and independence: it is bound to be influenced by the elected Government of the day. And yet, for all its faults, the Arts Council is a good buffer between artists and politicians who might interfere.

I am sure that there is some sensible streamlining to do, and that there is a need for greater coordination between the Arts Council and the regional arts associations. However, you must be careful not to sever the close links between local authorities and the regional bodies, which have

done so much to foster local arts activities. A major shake-up would absorb time, energy and money which would be better directed towards the arts themselves.

I am certainly not calling for more dirigisme from the Arts Minister. On the contrary, I am suggesting that all the arts need are relatively small sums of money to bridge the inevitable gap between earned income and expenditure. There is no shortage of talent in this country. I would urge you and your colleagues to find a little more money, to spread it wider and then to sit back and watch the flowers bloom.

There is one other urgent matter I would like to mention before I go: the worrying change in attitudes towards artistic freedom in recent years. It has never been easy for writers and performers to deal frankly with subjects like sex or religion in this country without facing a barracking from fundamentalists of one kind or another. The arts can live with criticism but they cannot live with intimidation or discrimination. Whether it is religious fundamentalism undermining Salman Rushdie's freedom of expression or Clause 28 discriminating against homosexuality, it is surely the job of the Arts Minister to speak up for artistic freedom.

Velazquez reigns in Spain

John Russell Taylor finds a Madrid arts fair eclipsed by an outstanding Old Master

I n Madrid in the last week or so the International Art Fair, Arco 90, may have been the game, but for art-inclined visitors the Prado's amazing Velazquez show was undoubtedly the prize.

Arco, just entering its tenth year, has during the last nine been slowly but surely overhauling its main competitors on the Art Fair circuit. It is staged in a sort of field called the Recinto Ferial de la Casa de Campo, across the river and into the suburbs, this year from February 8 to 13.

Next year, apparently, it is going to move to a new site close to the airport, but, apart from comparative inaccessibility, the pavilions of the Casa de Campo offer few causes for complaint: physically Arco is about the best turned-out fair in the world, with air, light, nice wide alleys between the stands and, these days, virtually no rubbish allowed to intrude. In terms of quality it is more than ready for Madrid's turn as European Cultural Capital in 1992.

Arco attracts many leading British, American and German galleries to exhibit, and encourages them to make it an exhibition rather than merely ramming as much stock as possible into the shop window. Artists on the whole are really showcased here, and participation is seen more in that light than as a direct attempt to sell on the spot. (Though sales, of course, are very welcome.) As well as encountering some interesting and unfamiliar contemporary art (visitors are particularly likely to find this on the Spanish stands), one can also hope to spot market trends.

This year it is very noticeable the way that promotion tends to follow major touring museum shows. The recent international assemblages of Picasso and Merit

Oppenheim, for instance, seem to have urged a number of dealers to dig appropriate examples for sale out of their stock.

There is a concerted move to push Oscar Dominguez up among the better-known Surrealists like Dali and Ernst, which must have something to do with the big show of Latin-American art recently at the Hayward and now in Madrid at the Palacio Velazquez. There also seems to be an endless amount of Picasso available wherever one looks.

Away from "modern classics", it is intriguing to note how frequently British artists such as Tony Cragg, Ian Hamilton Finlay, Richard Long and Bill Culbert turn up in the stock of non-British galleries, without comment or any feeling of oddity. One sometimes wonders how far the context governs reaction to the art: for example, Antonio Jannone is showing some very pretty, finicky architectural and horticultural capricci by Stefano Faravelli which here look chiefly post-modern. But would not the equivalent works by Felix Kelly, usually despised as chocolate-boxy, get the same sort of respect if shown in the same sort of way?

The crowds at Arco, though very considerable, are nothing compared with the mob scene regularly to be witnessed outside the Prado. The Velazquez show has been on since January 24 and runs until March 30; just nice time for everything to rise to fever pitch. But even the most sanguine at the Prado have been taken by surprise: Velazquez has become Madrid's hottest ticket, with thousands queuing in the sun and the smog for upwards of six hours. The show has attracted so many



"Maria Teresa of Spain", circa 1651-6, on loan from the Metropolitan Museum for the Velazquez show

who have never set foot in the museum before that the number daunted by the Velazquez line, who think they may as well look round the rest of it while they are there, is often ensuring a half-hour wait even to go through the main turnstiles.

All of which, while properly impressive as a gauge of Madrid's eagerness for culture, is in the event perfectly understandable. The earlier version of the Velazquez show which I wrote about from New York last year was remarkable enough, with 38 out of

Velazquez's 90-odd known works, but here the Prado (which of course owns the untransportable cream itself) makes as near as humanly possible a clean sweep, with no fewer than 79 works on show. This really is "once in a lifetime". And the result is to send one out dazed with delight and admiration.

There can be no argument that Velazquez, even if he was apparently more impressed with his own standing as gentleman-courtier than as painter, is one of the really great masters. One can see

here exactly why he was idolized by painters as different as Manet and Whistler and Ricketts, and how effortlessly he outstripped them all in the eloquence of his brushwork and the incisiveness of his vision.

To see this show and the Royal Academy's Hals show — the two painters, close contemporaries, strongly distinct and yet with astonishing similarities given that neither seemingly knew the other existed — in the same week is bliss indeed, a re-education in itself for anyone who truly loves painting.

Lovely discontinuity

OPERA IN ITALY

Nigel Jamieson

Lo frate 'namorato
La Scala, Milan

The music Pergolesi wrote before he died at the age of 26 has ensured him a place in operatic history but not, in our century, in the opera house. La Scala's production of *Lo frate 'namorato*, now this season, shows that his music is far too good to be neglected, but also the likely reasons why it has been.

This *commedia musicale*, composed for Naples in 1732, shares some of the flavour of *Così fan tutte*. Quite apart from the setting, the characters express their love-lorn emotions in serious music of great beauty in the context of a comic plot about rival lovers and unsuitable suitors. The range of styles is enormous, from full-

blown opera seria arias both straight and parodied to pieces influenced by Neapolitan folksong; the characters are thus spiritually stratified by the type of music allotted to them, from the sublime desolation of the soprano hero Ascanio to the melancholy lament of the old schemer Marcellino.

In Milan the former part was played to perfection by Nuccia Focile, her crystal-clear voice infected with warmth and spontaneity, while the latter provided a ghouly vehicle for Alessandro Corbelli's comic gifts and rich powers of vocal characterization. The other outstanding voice in the young cast was Luciana D'Intino's ample but agile mezzo-soprano.

The volcanic presence Riccardo Muti brought to this season's *La Scala* would have been quite out of place, and he presided unobtrusively from a seat on the podium, drawing from the Scala strings luminous clarity of texture and constant alertness to the



Alessandro Corbelli: comic gifts

changeable mood of the score. So why is this lovely music almost unknown? Mainly because the *commedia* cannot lay much claim to theatricality since it consists of a long string of arias and a very few short ensembles. The dramatic interest is therefore confined to the recitatives, but Roberto De Simone's production is so authentically Neapolitan that even the Milanese would need subtitles to follow the words.

than outward, but no less indicative of a state of mind.

Even though this movement is but the prologue to four others in Mahler's symphonic intention, it carries a musical logic and conviction without which no understanding of the composer's overall achievement is complete. A texture of strings and wind instruments devoid of percussion is woven into a slow symphonic rondo which this performance unfolded with care.

Between such weighty matters the Oboe Concerto from Strauss's late years came as a welcome respite in his Mozartian scale and lyricism. The Swiss virtuoso Heinz Holliger demonstrated his eminence in his perfect control of time and shading in the oboe's long first paragraph, and applied it in all that followed.

Breezing along with pop Handel

OPERA IN FRANCE

Adrian Dannatt

Giulio Cesare
Amandiers, Nanterre

The young American director Peter Sellars is a star in Paris, his eccentric opera productions considered *le dernier cri* in stage revisionism. Last year, Parisians flocked to see how his shock tactics worked on Mozart operas (Glyndebourne has the same opportunity this summer). More recently, via Brussels Opera, came Sellars's version of Handel.

His breezy populism appeals to an inverted Parisian snobbery, his cut-out American stereotypes — Tolomeo with Walkman and Popel, Cesare as huckster President, Egypt an unfinished Holiday Inn — have an acceptable transatlantic charm. His forcible modernizations neatly embody what the French imagine is the American aesthetic: accessible, efficient, obsessively contemporary.

But Sellars is sometimes too modern for his own good, producing parodies of his style that damage the integrity of the original work. His notion of Giulio Cesare as shallow American

imperialist, or Curio as a press attaché cum secret-service man, betrays his obsession with status and the media. With its podium speeches and grinning President, the production often echoes John Adams's *Nixon in China*, which Sellars also staged. Sellars is best with such operas, formal and repetitive in structure, where the music's fixed system allows him ample time to play with visual elements.

Inspired ideas — orchestra pit as swimming pool, complete with metal stairs down which Cleopatra climbs — occasionally lapse into collegiate silliness: Sellars as Animal House *entertainer*. If the poolside setting recalls Opera Factory's

Così fan tutte, much of the musical jargon seems closer to Hoffmann than the avant-garde.

The stage bristles with machine-gun mercenaries; even if it is not actually the case, all Sellars's productions seem to feature such soldiers. That is a danger with "trademark theatre". Sellars does not know if he wants the work to be taken seriously or not. He mocks the conventions of the original with sometimes unforfeitable vulgarity.

Very good at jokiness, Sellars can only deal with sincere emotion by leaving the voices to get on with it in darkness. The music is, as often, both a redemption and refutation of Sellars's approach; it is a reason to close one's eyes in ecstasy, despite a production determined to keep them popping.

If the Orchestre de la Monnaie was rather speedy, the singing generally was superb. Mary Westbrook-Geba's Cornelia stealing the show from Cleopatra, despite the latter's spangled bikini.



OH NO. You're not really going to send a card and flowers again, are you? What you really want to do is send yourself round instead. Armed only with your personality and Petite Liqueur.

It's a HEADY mix of petillant Bordeaux wines and fine old cognac, with a sparkle to match the one in her eyes. Served ICE COLD after dinner, it creates a WARM atmosphere. Just uncork the little bottle and say "I didn't send a card because..." And the flowers? Save them for Mother's Day. THINK PETITE. Petite Liqueur. From the House of Moët & Chandon.

★
PETITE LIQUEUR
PETILLANT
MOËT & CHANDON

CONCERTS

Noël Goodwin

RPO/Ashkenazy
Festival Hall

from each instrumental section. Some deeper concern with the relationship between Man and Nature linked Strauss with Mahler, who died four years before Strauss's Alpine excursion was finished, and who left his unfinished Tenth Symphony as a testament to be puzzled over. They were more supportive of each other than has often been suggested, and the Tenth Symphony's long opening Adagio, played separately, gives a view that is inward rather

What Vladimir Ashkenazy and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra discovered for us as they made their picturesque way to the summit of *An Alpine Symphony* and then down again, is that in this work Richard Strauss was no mere pictorial artist. It ended the RPO's series of Strauss programmes as a splendidly wrought symphonic conception.

The sound of around 110 musicians on the platform letting rip in the big climaxes is pretty awesome, and the conductor made the most of it to great effect. But he was also attentive to softer passages along the way, up to and including the oboist's quiet solo contemplation from the summit after the grandeur of reaching it, and he kept the tempo moving as well as drawing a fine response

How to get the best from a band

Stephen Pettitt

Hallé/Skowaczewski
Barbican Hall

Stanislaw Skowaczewski's days as principal conductor of the Hallé Orchestra are numbered. It is a pity that he is leaving, as this concert showed, he can inspire his players to heights undreamed of not so long ago.

Perhaps the best thing about Skowaczewski's conducting is that, although the sound he achieves is a richly polished one, his approach is pleasingly straightforward and honest. So it was, anyway, in Sunday night's performance of Bruckner's Third Symphony, a piece which, like much of Bruckner's work, achieves its own transcendence through dogged labour rather than vainglorious

posturing. In some readings the composer's struggles are all too obvious, but here Skowaczewski cut no corners. Those often uncomfortable moments, when climaxes are suddenly cut off and the music starts chugging away all over again, seemed here a natural part of the larger structural plan.

Even the hard-driven outer sections of the scherzo were carefully moulded. The adagio

beforehand swept nobly and affectingly to its apotheosis, while the first and last movements unfolded with an irrepressible might. Skowaczewski achieved a miraculous balance both between and within each instrumental department.

Not everything was technically perfect. More than once, over-zealous players anticipated entries, but in the context of such an impressive entity it mattered not one jot.

Earlier, Peter Donohoe had been the soloist in Schumann's Piano Concerto, playing with an unexpected lightness of tone that suited this music well.

TIMES DIARY

ALAN HAMILTON

Organizers of the Books for Romania appeal, to replace the Bucharest University library destroyed in the Christmas uprising, have been overwhelmed by the generous response, and now have more than 250,000 volumes and journals ready for shipment. Co-ordinator Richard Crampton of the University of Kent tells me that the vast majority of donations are high-quality academic tomes, but they did not refuse a case of Mills and Boon romance from the printers, nor two back copies of *Reader's Digest* from a lady in Glamorgan. The largest single benefactor, however, is Dr Alex Comfort, author of *The Joy of Sex* and *More Joy of Sex* (and many equally respectable academic medical treatises on other subjects, I should add), who has donated no less than seven tonnes of books, by himself and others, the result of a mass clear-out of his house to give himself living room. Comfort's own works caused the appeal directors a momentary *frisson* of concern, destined as they were for a country where contraception was unobtainable under Ceausescu, and abortion a serious offence. All, however, is well. A quiet word with the International Planned Parenthood Federation ensured that last week a lorry set off for Bucharest carrying 40,000 condoms.

A little local difficulty with *glasnost*, I fear. The Hang the Monkey restaurant in Cleveland Street, London W1, planning a month of Russian cuisine for March, had invited the president and director of the Leningrad Academy of Arts — in London for the opening of an exhibition of drawings they have loaned — to lunch today to check the authenticity of the dishes. Lunch, alas, has been cancelled; at the weekend the kitchen caught fire and is temporarily out of action. The *sears* were assured, attempting a *beetroot flambe* at the time.

Forgive a moment's crowing, but you did read it here first. I reported as long ago as November 28 that Mandela would be released soon, as he had sent out from his Cape Town prison for a raincoat, an item he could not possibly require in detention in the Cape at that time of year. He was not, I noticed, carrying it when he strode through the gates of Victor Verster prison on Sunday, but he is well aware, as weekend viewers of news bulletins will now also be, that it can pour cats and dogs in Soweto in February.

West Germany's biggest daily, *Bild*, which is running a front-page countdown to reunification, now sees only one obstacle in the way — Maggie. "If she has her way," the paper said yesterday, "the London taxi drivers' association, the Soho pigeon breeders' club, the Scotch whisky lobby and the Association for the Support of the Loch Ness Monster would all have to be asked permission first." Oh well, that's it then; have you ever met a pro-German London cabbie?

BARRY FANTONI



"Er, what now?"

With talks resuming in Madrid tomorrow on the possible restoration of full diplomatic relations between Britain and Argentina, I detect some behind-the-scenes pressure in Buenos Aires to have us send the right man for the ambassadorial job. And what he must be, I hear, is Scottish. Eight MPs who visited the country last week were much taken by the widespread perception among Argentines that the Scots really had nothing to do with the Falklands war, and that Tumbledown (which the Scots Guards would claim as a battle honour) was actually taken by the Gurkhas. Lord King of BA, in town last week to reopen the air route from Heathrow, was greeted at a glittering reception with pipes and drums, tartan-clad sword dancers (all of them native-born locals) and copious quantities of Dr Ballantine's golden relaxant from Dumbarton. The burning question asked of the British envoys by their hosts was when the Caledonian Ball, once a top society occasion, was going to return to the Buenos Aires social calendar. This touching tribute to God's own people will, I suspect, be severely tested when Argentina play Scotland in a World Cup warm-up at Hampden Park next month. Then they'll see what we're really like.

It's an odd feeling to know what you're sucking when you're 87. It is both locally odd — how will this tongue feel, then, will it have shrivelled and lost sensation, will it be lolting from side to side, will it be jabbering to itself? How will these teeth feel, will they wobble, will they clack, will they be there at all or have given gummy way to shimmering prostheses? What about these lips, will they be vacantly grinning, crabbily denouncing, lecherously puckering, will they perhaps, as they suck, be attempting simultaneously to whistle a fetching tune from 83-year-old Paul McCartney's 233rd golden album? — and less locally odd, which is to say, where will this sucking head be, provided it is not six feet under something? Will it be staring glumly from the barred window of the Bide-A-Wee Sunset Scrapyard? Floating happily

The British have always respected a government that gives them strong defence, but they also expect realism. As communism collapses even in its Soviet heartland, the Tories risk appearing obsessed with the divisive nostrums of the Cold War, or else punch-drunk to the point of inertia by the speed of events.

It would be perverse in the extreme if, after two elections in which defence policy drove floating voters away from Labour, it became an issue which drove them from the Tories. Yet the Conservative Party is reticent about the kind of public debate on the peace dividend that is positively embraced by President Bush. Some of us fear that if we do not take the lead and set the tone, Neil Kinnock will do so, diverting attention from Labour's vote-losing nuclear disarmament policies.

We are besieged by warnings about the new instability caused by the upheavals in the Soviet empire and the likelihood that Gorbachev will fail and fall. So the only safe course, some argue, is to continue spending on defence at current levels. But why? That it is hard to predict

how change will develop does not obviate the need for a reappraisal of the scale (£20 billion a year) and nature of our defence spending.

The right prescription is for Western Europe to remain economically strong through closer integration of the EC, and militarily strong by keeping Nato viable. Inevitably there is uncertainty, but the changes in Europe have lessened, not increased, the risk.

It would be foolish to lose the fruits of victory merely because defence spending at some future date may need to increase, for in the case of a new threat, the pattern of spending would almost certainly have to be different. But this is not to say that the Soviet offensive capability will not be modernized, nor that we will not need our own nuclear deterrent.

Spending on arms has no

Keith Hampson urges cuts to match the diminished threat

Arms bill in need of attack

abstract value. It must relate to strategy based on analysis of the threat. Obviously the nature of the threat has changed. Nato policies have been based on the fear that vast Soviet armies might pour westwards. That is now a less credible proposition. Regardless of the Vienna talks on conventional force reductions, Soviet troops will have to withdraw from the quicksands of Eastern Europe, and the idea that a new generation of Nato short-range nuclear weapons should be targeted on East Germany or Czechoslovakia is no longer acceptable. That chapter is closed.

Our commitment to the German front is the most expensive of our roles. With circumstances in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union so dramatically changed, a rethink of our deployment of men, tanks, aircraft and bases is inevitable, and should begin

immediately. It may be argued that an abrupt reduction in our forces would send the wrong signals to Moscow. On the contrary, our security is intrinsically linked to the Soviets' sense of insecurity. Indicating a reluctance to cut our force levels will increase the anxiety of Soviet generals, and will help to undermine Mr Gorbachev.

Of course an element of caution is needed, but that does not mean we need to retain current levels of spending or the same military posture. Yet, based on the old certainties, the British defence budget is scheduled to rise by £1 billion in each of the next three years.

The situation in Germany no longer allows us to maintain the old posture. For some time the West Germans have resented the scale of Western forces in their country, and although Mrs Thatcher believes that a speedy

reunification of East and West Germany "could destabilize everything", it will be at the top of the agenda in the elections to be held in both East and West Germany this year.

No matter how cautious we may wish to be, the momentum is unstoppable. Trying to maintain the political or defence status quo will stoke the fires of German nationalism.

With a reunified Germany likely to become the Japan of Europe in economic terms, it is time to open our eyes to the real conflict to come, the industrial war between Europe and the Japanese, and our influence in it. Does it make any sense to continue defence spending at 4.3 per cent of GDP, in large part on behalf of Germany (which spends 2.9 per cent of its GDP on defence), when our industrial base so dramatically needs strengthening?

It is on our industrial base that Britain's influence in Europe and in the world will rest. If defence spending can be cut because the landscape has altered significantly, then it should be. This would enable us to grasp the present opportunity to enhance Britain's economic strength. Between now and 1992, the priority must be industrial, not military, investment.

The Soviet Union has had to respond to the military will and economic strength that have characterized the Reagan and Thatcher years, and to lose sight of this would be a grave mistake, but the British voter will not understand if we spend yet more, rather than less, on defence in future. As the Prime Minister herself has said: "You have always to be thinking ahead in great historic terms." The ultimate attraction of capitalism, to East and West, will be its ability to maintain prosperity without needing to spend so much in fear of war.

The author, Conservative MP for Leeds North-West, was vice-chairman of the Conservative Parliamentary Defence Committee, 1986-89.

Bernard Levin on a failure by the anti-drink lobby to impose its wishes

Giving the rules a puritan twist

As far as I can recall, I haven't been really drunk since 1948 or thereabouts. But I am no Rechabite; many a glass of fine stuff, the finer the better, has soothed my tonsils and increased my well-being. I gave up spirits almost entirely a long time ago; the end of a long, hard day may be marked by a long, hard Bloody Mary or an aquavit, but it is many years since I tasted gin or whisky. Champagne is practically the only aperitif I touch, and if the food is conducive I can happily drink nothing else throughout a meal. Moreover, when that long, hard day is to precede a pleasant evening, a split of the same precious juice accompanies me to my bath.

Very well, I am neither a total abstainer nor a lush, and the same can be said of most people in this land, whatever their tipples. I am not unaware of the tragedies of which alcohol has been the instrument; a close friend drank himself to death. But it is silly to brand liquor as the cause of alcoholic self-destruction, when far more deep-rooted psychological problems or unbalances are responsible, with drink (and now, of course, drugs) being only the means.

Now, however, this pleasurable and health-giving custom (obviously, I speak of drinking beneficial liquor only, and in moderation) is under assault from a new and singularly repellent quarter. To be sure, in the old days, temperance societies and their like campaigned against drink; their efforts were, I

believe, grounded in the horrors of the 19th century and the gin palaces. But they pressed their case with modesty and charity; there was little or nothing of the Single Issue Fanatic in their work, let alone persecution.

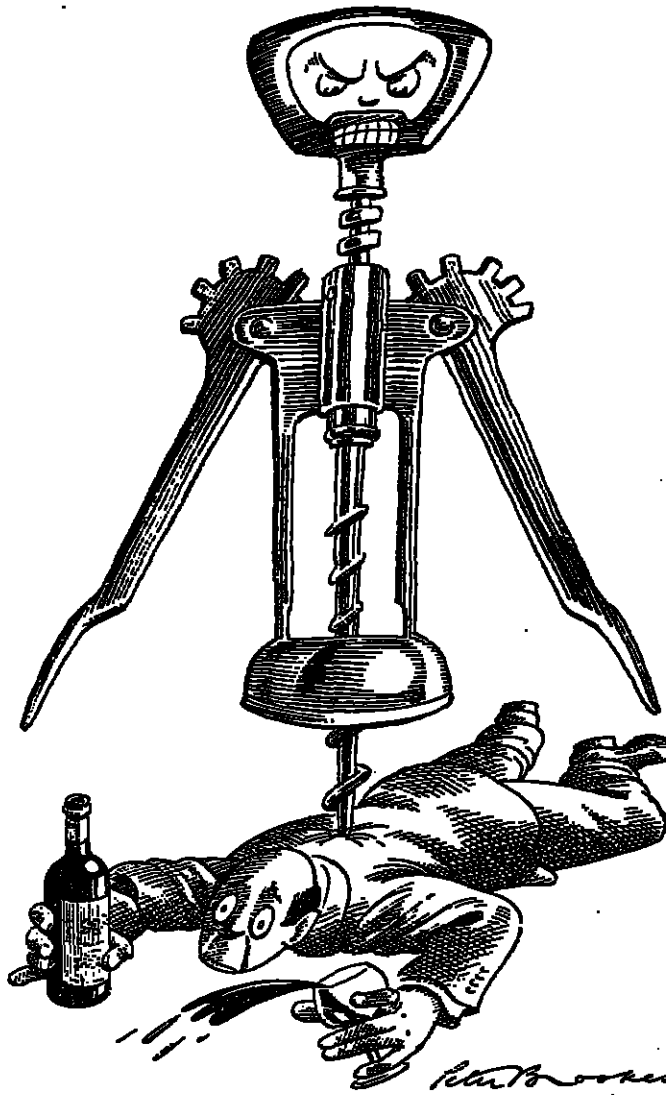
All of a sudden (and it is of a sudden) a new plague has broken out; today's wowsers are not concerned to point to the dangers of excessive drinking, or to urge moderation. No; for them, it is a Cause, and if there is one thing we know about Causes with a Capital Letter, it is that those who espouse them are suffocating in self-righteousness, convinced that to bring nearer The Day, harassment, interference and bullying are indispensable.

Here comes the Greater London Alcohol Advisory Service, whatever that might be, to demand for a start (oh, but not for a finish) that all cinema advertising of liquor should be banned, and that ultimately (I said the start wouldn't be the finish) it should be banned altogether on television as well. It seems, moreover, that the cinema, at least, are giving in with hardly a struggle, so that such advertising is expected to vanish within a year or so. The fact that many cinemas will disappear as well, because the lost advertising revenue will make the difference between profit and loss, does not concern the wowsers; provided their pestilent busybody triumphs, it doesn't matter how many other freedoms are diminished. The spokeswower for this organization is a Mr Hatter, and

he exhibits the stigmata of the SIF, as I shall demonstrate. The bodies charged with examining advertisements which may have a deleterious effect (on young people, for instance) have recently strengthened their rules; young actors are now not allowed to appear in television advertisements for alcohol, nor may such advertisements suggest that drinking alcohol is a specially manly practice; the new rules even restrict the use of humour to sell drink, presumably because impressionable people may be softened up by jokes into drinking more than they otherwise might. (I must say that between the hectoring of the SIF and the imbecilities of our guardians, there is less and less to choose as the days go by.)

Anyway, the rules have been made even more restrictive, which you might think would have pleased Mr Hatter. Not a bit of it; he utters thus: "We put in 30 complaints to the ASA [Advertising Standards Authority] last year, and on all of them they ruled against us." I said that Mr Hatter would typify the SIF; well, doesn't he? For what is the typical stance of this unattractive breed? It is, surely, a demand that the jury be picked by the accusers; it has plainly not occurred to him that the ASA may have rejected his complaints because they were without foundation, the advertisements in question being within the rules.

So much the worse for the



rules, says the SIF; they shall be amended to ensure that whatever we want to happen must happen. The obvious analogy is, of course, with the smoking wowsers, but they, at least, have a case; smoking is in itself dangerous. The drinking, in moderation, of good wine, or even pure spirit is in itself not dangerous, and indeed used wisely is beneficial.

The Rechabite says it is wrong to drink, and although I reject

his claim, I can see, and even sympathize with, his point. He has, of course, forgotten what the First Miracle was about, which is naughty of him, since he bases his charge on scripture (Jeremiah, 35, 6), but although he wishes that we should all abstain, he does not see it as his duty to drag us into doing so.

Not so the Hatters. And now here comes Mr Derek Rutherford, of the Institute of Alcohol Studies (how many more of

these wowsers' covens are going to spring up before we rise in revolt and get the tar and feathers out of the cupboard?), who looks like joining his brother Hatter in the matter of packing the jury. He wants advertising controlled by a body set up by the Government and stuffed with "members of the health lobby".

The wowsers will deny it, but what they are really after is Prohibition, just as the smoking fanatics will not cease until the manufacture, sale and use of tobacco has been made illegal. But both of them start and finish at the same point; they are quite sure that they know what is good for us and what is bad for us. The fact that we dare to say that in our judgement they may be wrong in their assessment of us only inflames their certainty, and strengthens their determination to call us all to heel.

I am a bachelor, but I am close to many children. I would never offer one of them a cigarette, and would gently ("gently" — the wowsers should look the word up in a dictionary, for they have certainly not encountered it before) try to stop them smoking if they have started. But I deem it nothing less than a duty to introduce them to good wine, which is one of the noblest and sweetest pleasures in life, and I am happy to say that one of the youngest has become something of a connoisseur of first-class champagne. He takes it in sips only, of course, for I stress again that moderation is an essential ingredient in drinking; but I hope and trust that he will learn more about wine as he grows older, and will appreciate it as one of nature's greatest gifts.

Meanwhile, the wowsers sow teeth and watch armed men spring up. Let us resolve to arm ourselves in turn, and do battle with those who hate pleasure, but hate even more terribly the thought of those who enjoy it. Mud in their eyes!

Thought for Today: your bias is so blatant

Woodrow Wyatt urges the BBC to change its radio breakfast crew

The *Daily Express* of February 3 carried an article based on a 36-page report from the Media Monitoring Unit, which had examined the BBC *Today* programme for impartiality over a two-week period in January. The study found that more Conservative than Labour supporters were interviewed on *Today*, including a number of Conservative MPs strongly opposed to important aspects of government policy.

Labour was rarely asked to explain and defend its policies. Anti-government spokesmen were generally given a gentle ride. Government spokesmen were usually violently challenged, up to insolent insult. This approach backfired on January 19 when Kenneth Baker, the Conservative party chairman, robustly turned the tables following a *Today* report one-sided in its condemnation of the community charge.

A fairly regular listener to *Today*, I sent the BBC 12 basic questions last Tuesday. Some were about the political predictions and voting habits of the producers and the four presenters, Brian Redhead, Sue MacGregor, John Humphrys and Peter Hobday. The reaction was

horror at such outrageous questions to the BBC and its fearless *Today* investigators, who insist on answers to questions of every kind on their programme. "We do not want to know their private political convictions," the BBC formally replied.

But the information is germane in enabling listeners to know by what viewpoint the supposedly impartial *Today* is steered and whether it assumes that attacking the Government more vigorously than the Opposition is a normal middle-of-the-road stance.

When we were BBC political commentators there was no concealment of the political leanings of Robin Day (Liberal), Geoffrey Johnson-Smith and Chris Chataway (Conservative), Christopher Mayhew and myself (Labour). We all tried, rather successfully, to be unbiased, but viewers or listeners knew where our hearts were.

In the US, commentators on current affairs in the most influential media believe in openness. They do not denounce questions about their private political convictions as an inva-

sion of privacy. The answers of 238 of them are recorded in *The Media Elite*, published in America in 1986.

In 1964, 94 per cent voted for the Democratic candidate in the presidential election. In 1968, 87 per cent. In 1972, 81 per cent, and in 1976 the same. From later investigations the book's authors conclude that the anti-Republican feelings of those commenting in the press, television and radio are mounting.

I assume that the left-of-centre ethos is similar here, although the BBC, for one, wishes to keep it secret while arrogating to itself the duty of exposure in every area but its own. The political standing of Brian Redhead, the leading figure of the *Today* programme, is easily deduced.

He joined the strongly anti-Conservative *Manchester Guardian* in 1954 and progressed by Lord Ezra without revealing that he is a leading anti-government spokesman in the Lords. With no challenge, *Today* retailed the information that about half a million households are in some financial difficulty as a result of what the report calls

being anti-Thatcher with a normal, civilized, balanced approach. I would be delighted to hear from the rest if they voted other than for an anti-Conservative party in the last two elections and I am amazed at their timid reticence.

My view is that the *Today* programme provides a steady drip-drip diet of anti-government propaganda while attempting to mask it as the objective reporting and comment enjoined in the guidelines sent me by the BBC. One is a jolly joke: "Scripts and questions in interviews should not state or imply relevant personal opinions" but "They can include subjective comments..."

Last Wednesday, *Today* three times billed as one of the most significant news items of the day a report by the Money Advice Funding Working Party chaired by Lord Ezra without revealing that he is a leading anti-government spokesman in the Lords. With no challenge, *Today* retailed the information that about half a million households are in some financial difficulty as a result of what the report calls

"the credit explosion" under this government. The implication was clear: that the climate created by the Government encourages overspending. The repeated interview with Lord Ezra was inordinately long.

The Ezra report was dismissed in a few lines without a headline on page three of *The Times* and dealt with in a few inches in the bottom left-hand corner of page 25 of *The Independent*.

You can guess why *Today* gave this unimportant report so much prominence. And why yesterday morning, just before the Saunders trial, *Today* allowed an ex-policeman to muse, unchallenged, that the Government is less than serious in rooting out financial wrongdoing because its paymasters are in the City. So the anti-government propaganda goes on, sometimes blatant, sometimes subtle, often because attacking the Government is natural and normal to the presenters, who probably do it unconsciously as well as consciously.

Today's bias is serious because, according to the BBC, it has a "daily reach" of six million

listeners. Day after day it is anti-government, with an occasional, often gentle, rap on the knuckles for Labour. It must have an insidious effect on its audience, most of whom still believe the BBC is concerned only with the truth and do not have the means to investigate its dodgy "facts" and unjustified assumptions.

The editor and three of the presenters have each been on *Today* for roughly three years, which is quite long enough. Brian Redhead is in his fifteenth year, which is so long that the barnacles of his political emotions cannot now be removed.

The BBC's chief press officer told me pompously: "The BBC do not vet staff." He repeated this somewhat testily after I pointed out to him that the BBC had done it for years with the help of a brigadier from M15. (see *DG* by Alasdair Milne, page 147). If the BBC could do that, it should care about the political ambience of the makers of *Today*.

In 1941 Brian Redhead played the clarinet on *Children's Hour*. Removing him to a five-year stint on something similar is overdue and not exactly exile to Siberia. *Today* needs a complete change of bowling.

Preserving me in mint condition



ALAN
COREN

on some sunsoaked Marian canal, courtesy of Cook's interplanetary Winter Breaks? Craving for a glimpse of the scampish single which will thwart Latvia of England's follow-on? Thronging loyally in Downing Street, to express its personal good wishes to its Prime Minister on the occasion of her 100th birthday?

Indeed, might this head, wherever it is, be wondering nervously whether its recent run-of-the-mill transplant means that it has acquired a new body, or that the body has acquired a new head, and what the answer implies vis-à-vis its pension entitlements? We can confidently — and perhaps fortunately — answer none

of this. The future is a foreign country, they will do things differently there. All we can be sure of is what the head will be sucking in 2026: if it is sucking anything it will be sucking a Trebor Extra Strong Mint.

We know this because of the generosity of Mr Roger Munby. And the possibility that that generosity may contain an element of shrewdness must be allowed to detract not one whit from it, since Mr Munby is Trebor's Executive Director of Marketing, and he would be untrue to his lights — and we should all think the worse of him — if he did not executive-direct the market at every conceivable opportunity. And at the odd inconceivable one, too.

On December 12, 1989, you may recall, I occupied this space by running about intemperately and banging on its feint-ruly walls to the effect that my new navy overcoat had been nicked from a cloakroom peg in the Garrick Club, and I speculated as to the kind of swine who might have pulled such a stroke — because December 12 was in the days before we had heard about the Garrick Mafia, and if I had known then what we all know now, I would have kept my trap shut (indeed, this seems as good a time as any to apologize. Keep the coat, *paysano*, I hope it's nice and warm, and if it isn't roomy enough under the arms to accommodate professional bulges, send the alteration bill to me.)

I heard nothing more — you will say luckily — until last week,

when a small box, forwarded by this newspaper, arrived at my door. It did not, however, contain an overcoat. It contained 36 rolls of Trebor Extra Strong Mints, and a letter in which, after many a solicitous murmur, Mr Munby concluded: "... although I cannot stretch to a replacement cashmere coat, I can at least provide some warming comfort in the deep winter's chill."

How could he have guessed what he had done? It is not his fault — even Wordsworth, than whom no one could have been more of a stranger to executive market-directing, believed the best portions of a good man's life were the little, nameless, un-

remembered acts of kindness and of love, remaining utterly oblivious to how much they can screw their hapless recipients up.

For I am funny about mints. I know this, because I invariably buy a tube at Christmas, when I tend not only to drink more uninterrupted than normal, but also to breathe on more people, including policemen, more frequently. By New Year's Day, there are usually two mints left in the packet, which collect fluff for a month or so before getting summarily eaten in a sort of general tidying-up of the pockets.

So when I look, as I look now, at Mr Munby's gift, I see the next measure out of his ill-fated Prufrock's mints are my meter. One by one, the rolls will go, as Yule follows Yule, and which, I wonder, will run out first, the box or I?

هكذا من الأصل



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone: 01-782 5000

TOWARDS A NEW ENTENTE?

The Soviet attitude to the accelerating reunification of Germany swims into focus one day and out again the next. This uncertainty is not reassuring but it ought to prompt Nato countries to pull together their own consensus on an issue which has provoked so much division in history.

There is wide agreement that stability and security in Europe should be discussed under the framework of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE), which embraces most of the states in both Western and Eastern Europe. This unexceptional suggestion has distracted attention from the Western organization which most plainly requires it. Nato. The alliance's priorities have so far been the containment of the Warsaw Pact, the containment of German power in a multilateral alliance and the preservation of the American link to Europe. Its membership represents the widest range of democratic states on both sides of the Atlantic which can be combined with the military force (mostly American) to defend the common values at the heart of the alliance. To talk, as many now do, of Nato becoming a "more political" organization than it has been in the past is therefore misleading. It has from its formation been a political organization.

The Warsaw Pact may dissolve, but prudent military insurance against Soviet military power will remain necessary while the Soviet Union remains the military giant that it has become. Nato, if Germany so decide, can play a role in linking West Germany or a reunified Germany to its partners. Retention of an American link — at a lower military level — remains necessary as a foundation of democratic security in Europe.

Lower-level residual defence requires new tactics and technology. Should a Nato strategy for a new generation take account of a new generation of countries which may deploy missiles with nuclear or chemical warheads? If

Nato exists to pool resources in the defence of freedom, can additional members join and what criteria should they meet? By what principles should the new burdens be distributed in the light of both force cuts and the reductions in American forces stationed in Europe?

The last question holds a particular importance for Britain. If the Soviet Union can be persuaded to accept a reunified Germany in Nato, there will still be political pressure in Germany for the shrinkage or removal of the Nato presence. Since US forces will reduce, more of the future European defence will pivot on the nuclear powers, Britain and France. The two countries of the old entente have to look forward to altered relationships with the US and with each other. It seems likely that if there are to be foreign troops on German soil, they will be more acceptable if they are Europeans. That, in effect, means forces organized round a Franco-British core. Effecting such changes also pre-supposes that the long-standing French suspicion of Nato, eroding of late, can be overcome. In this diplomacy, Britain would find a natural role as broker.

Or it would if its diplomacy and utterances showed some sense of what the European strategic future could be. At present, the Government still finds difficulty in achieving a consistent line on German reunification. At the end of a week in which its tone of voice sounded more friendly, the Prime Minister suggested that international agreements could be used to delay reunification.

This failed to establish a case for international intervention while sounding a grudging and reluctant note about the inevitable. The effect of this veering is to make Britain's interests harder to advance and defend in the multilateral negotiations to come. In the establishment of a security system for the next century, Britain — as it always has — needs allies.

LONG LIVE THE GENERAL LINE

In the immediate aftermath of the Tiananmen Square massacre, China's Prime Minister, Mr Li Peng, indicated that if the West made life difficult, China would respond by drawing closer to the Soviet Union. That strategy, clearly designed to alarm the West, never looked terribly convincing.

It consorted ill with President Gorbachev's own agenda, which would not have been served by policies risking confrontation with the West; and it discounted the need shared by both countries for Western technology. Despite the Sino-Soviet thaw, confirmed by President Gorbachev's visit to Peking the previous month, China seemed unlikely to revert to the enthusiasms of the "learn from the Soviet Union" campaigns of the 1950s.

Events beyond the Great Wall, first in Eastern Europe and then in the Soviet Union itself, have ruled out for Peking the option of playing the Russian card. The priority for its nervous leadership is now to ensure that China's people learn as little as possible from the Soviet Union.

After days of complete silence, the *Peking Daily* responded to last week's political earthquake in Moscow with an editorial insisting that without the strong leadership of the Communist Party, "the nation would be split" by turmoil and wars. But the publication on the same day of a six-week-old internal party document on "multi-party co-operation" suggests that even Peking's hardliners have begun to concede that they must lend a more attractive public gloss to the task of "building socialism with Chinese characteristics".

The document is hardly revolutionary. It reaffirms the Communist Party's role as "the core of leadership in the cause of socialism" and rejects any question of a multi-party system of the kind practised in Western capitalist countries.

Any political organization which opposes "the four cardinal principles" — the party's leading role, the people's "democratic dictator-

ship", socialism, and Marxist-Leninist-Mao Tse-tung thought — must, it says, be banned as soon as discovered. But it also lays new emphasis on the claim that China's is not the one-party system of other socialist countries. The eight "democratic parties", wholly subservient ghosts which are carry-overs from before the 1949 revolution are to be given a more prominent role in party affairs, and some of their leaders even offered senior posts.

The reality is purges which have intensified since last June and involved the jailing, according to a report by Asia Watch last week, of between 10,000 and 30,000 "ordinary workers". A *People's Daily* editorial last month stating that party cadres should be selected according to their "loyalty to Marxism" and that those who "trim their sails according to the political wind" should be dismissed, recalls the Cultural Revolution's slogan, "better Red than expert".

The policy document also, however, indicates that repression has failed to eradicate dissent. The leadership evidently believes that the battle between truth, defined as those who unquestioningly uphold the party's ideological line, and "counter-revolutionary conspiracy", is far from convincingly won. In the effort to restore political orthodoxy, and to reassert the centre's control over the provinces, economic reforms have been reversed, with a return to the central allocation of resources and close party direction of economic life. The "open door" to foreign investment opens on an environment inimical to the market.

In present circumstances, the World Bank's recent decision, with US encouragement, to resume lending to China, looks questionable. Such conciliatory gestures at this stage, by strengthening the hand of those who argue that China can repress its reformers and intellectuals with impunity, might usher in the very instability which they were intended to forestall.

HOMOSEXUAL POLITICS

The Church of England and the Labour Party are currently both suffering from sexual embarrassment. Both of them have a constituency which actively lobbies for homosexual equality, causing discomfort to their leaders who know the issue is a pew-emptier or a vote-loser, as well as an awkward question on its own merits.

Labour Party conferences have passed demands for the lowering of the age of consent for homosexuals so often that it has become almost a reflex. Labour's policy at the next election, however, is likely to be no policy at all, but simply the offer of a free vote in Parliament.

The Labour leadership will be blamed by the gay rights lobby for treating it as an open question — a suitable subject for a free vote — instead of campaigning unequivocally in favour of homosexual equality. But a decision by Parliament to lower to 16 the age at which homosexual intercourse ceases to be criminal would never be easy to reverse. It would signify that society had finally adopted the view that homosexuality and heterosexuality should be regarded in all respects as equal. And that is still far from true.

There are several good reasons why the age of consent should be left as it is, at 21. The sexual development of male adolescents goes through several stages sometimes including, particularly in an all-male environment such as a boarding school, a homosexual stage. But few people would regard that as a satisfactory completion of the process.

A law against under-age sexual behaviour, whether homosexual or heterosexual, does have a positive symbolic influence in such cases. Where the people concerned are of similar age, it needs to be applied with discretion and sensitivity. Where it involves the sexual exploitation of youth by a much older person, however, the full sanction of the criminal law is legitimate. In the extreme case, that of young male prostitutes, the advantage

of the present law is that, unlike female prostitution, it covers the client as well as the prostitute. This is a form of discouragement that is clearly to the public good, not least in the light of the threat from Aids. This is not the time to be seen to be relaxing vigilance against such a scourge.

While the Labour Party proposal for a free vote is some improvement on conference policy, the position currently occupied by the bishops of the Church of England makes them look a trifle foolish. The House of Bishops is confronted with the leak of a report it commissioned several years ago, which in spite of a nominal even-handedness in fact presses the arguments for accepting homosexual behaviour by church members and clergymen.

The commissioning of a report to advise them on their pastoral practice was naive if well-intentioned, but the Church of England at large was surely entitled to know what advice they received, especially as the General Synod has a declared policy on homosexuality. The synod, in effect, called it sinful. The report should have been published and debated as soon as it was ready, and if it did not comply with the policy to which the bishops themselves are committed, disowned. Instead the bishops have kept the report alive, but tried to hide it in the episcopal closet.

In view of the report's general pro-homosexual tenor, the bishops are bound to be suspected of looking for a way round the resolutions the synod passed on homosexuality in 1987, even to the extent of ordaining practising homosexuals. The Church is bound to conclude that the bishops do not trust it.

The bishops have left themselves open to attack for seeming to treat the issue as an open question — needing more study, more reports — instead of taking a firm position against it, as the synod decided they should. If this is not their intention, the sooner they say so the better.

Manpower needs in the Services

From Mr Richard Stanton

Sir, Like many other of your correspondents, Major-General Strawson (February 7) bases his ideas about the future of the Armed Forces on the experiences of the past rather than a realistic assessment of what lies ahead.

Up to 1985 there was a constant increase in the number of recruits (and women) in the 16-24 age group. Since then there has been a sharp downturn and by the year 2000 there will have been a reduction of 24 per cent. Furthermore, there will be fierce competition from other employers for this limited supply.

The reduction in the Gibraltar garrison which he deplored was occasioned as much by shortage of manpower as by any other consideration. As regards the use of overseas bases to improve the quality of Army life, how many of the 16-24 age group, for strategic reasons in the future in the changing world situation, and in any event Hong Kong will have disappeared as a base by 1997.

May I add that the same trend is apparent in varying degrees throughout Nato. The decline in West Germany is 40 per cent (and 17 per cent in East Germany), 30 per cent in The Netherlands, 20 per cent in Italy, 15 per cent in France, etc. The truth is that even if the political situation had not undergone such a dramatic change, manpower shortages would have forced a measure of disarmament since, even in countries which have conscription, about 50 per cent of their manpower are volunteers.

It is of interest that in Eastern Europe and the USSR the trend is in the opposite direction — a matter of considerable significance both within and outside purely military considerations. Yours faithfully, H. H. BRACKEN (Director of Manning, Admiralty, 1962-64), The Old House, Groombridge, East Sussex, February 10.

Consumer protection

From Mr Michael Shersby, MP for Uxbridge (Conservative)

Sir, I write as one of the several Conservative sponsors of Martyn Jones' Consumer Guarantees Bill to deny the suggestion in Jack Straw's article, "Buyer beware: the Tories are against you" (February 5), that there is widespread hostility to the Bill amongst Conservative MPs.

It was a former Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, Baroness Oppenheim-Barnes, who, as chairman of the National Consumer Council, was responsible for instigating and developing this reform. But for the support of 18 Conservative MPs and nine from minority parties the Bill would not have received its second reading.

The reservations expressed by the Minister for Consumer Affairs about parts of the proposed consumer guarantees are, I believe, mistaken. A Bill which has the support of leading manufacturers of quality goods such as Hotpoint and Volvo and of retailers such as Argos, Comet, the Co-op, and the Retail Consortium, should have the Government's endorsement so as to encourage other businesses to raise their standards.

Yours faithfully, MICHAEL SHERSBY, House of Commons, February 6.

From Mr Stephen Billew

Sir, I have for the British motor industry and motoring public that the experiences of Messrs Jack Straw, MP, with his own car, and Martyn Jones, MP, should be the basis for the latter's Consumer Guarantees Bill.

For 40 years management in the British motor industry, harassed by trade unions, tried to introduce product improvements and better manufacturing techniques which are the foundation of industrial excellence in Japan and Germany.

British Labour Party leaders would project a more sincere and coherent message if they exhorted those who gain their livelihood in the motor industry to individual commitment to the workplace in perfecting their products.

The Labour Party appears to overlook the work ethic that drives Britain's international rivals.

Like Mr Straw's car and the proposed Bill, British Trabants, Skodas, and Dacias will not sell. The emphasis must be on the real producers, the workers themselves, succeeding in a competitive environment, the yearning of the peoples of Eastern Europe. Yours faithfully, S. BILLEW, rue des Tanneurs 13A, B-1338 Lasne, Belgium, February 6.

Rottweiler defence

From Mr L. P. Elsdon

Sir, Three children died in the United Kingdom in the first nine months of 1989 as a result of being attacked by a dog. One of these was Kellie Lynch; another died after an attack by a breed which I am certain was not a Rottweiler, Doberman, or pit bull terrier, the breeds listed by Bernard Levin (January 29) as being unfit to share the lives of human beings.

Furthermore, in the 10 years preceding 1989 12 people, according to figures supplied by the Office of Population Censuses and

Early struggles in the schoolroom

From Mr Richard Stanton

Sir, Angela Rumbold's flirtation (report, February 9) with the Danish practice of teachers staying with a class throughout their primary years will, I'm sure, cause surprise in the staffrooms; not because the underlying concepts of stability and security are alien to primary teachers — indeed, many schools and teachers consider these very carefully and, when appropriate, do encourage prolonged association between a class and a particular teacher.

Rather, the surprise will result from an awareness of the contradiction between this concern for relationships and the dominant effects of most of the Government's educational reforms.

Positive pupil-teacher relationships have been a hallmark of primary schools in Britain. However, the current pressure on teachers to "fit everything in" whilst completing some 900 standard assessments, in just the three core subjects, is reducing the time for pastoral work in primary classrooms.

As teachers think of the publication of results and the resultant league tables of schools there is little encouragement to focus on individual non-academic needs and experiences.

The Government has presided over a serious primary-teacher shortage in the inner-city areas. It is not uncommon in many schools for teachers to change during a term and frequent that they change during the year, or that children spend periods of time without a regular teacher. And yet it has been almost impossible to get the Government to admit that the problem exists.

Yours faithfully, RICHARD STANTON (Principal Officer, Primary/Middle Education), National Union of Teachers, Hamilton House, Mableton Place, WCI, February 12.

From the Chairman of Mensa

Sir, Your account (February 6) of the report of the Senior Chief Inspector of Schools confirms the experience of this foundation. Less able children, especially, are badly taught and under-challenged. But the failure to bring out the potential of the most able children may be even more damaging to the national interest, though less noticeable.

We have identified over 800 cognitively outstanding children in the last year alone. Many are well provided for, but many are abysmally under-challenged. The most serious problem appears to

be at the primary level. Any child's attitude towards education seems to be almost irreversibly fixed at this period.

Indiscriminate education in mixed-ability schools and classes, the discouragement of selection for excellence (labelled "creaming off") in about nearly 18,000 sub-standard primary schools that we now hear about, must have consequences for the promising children in them as well as for the average ones. At such schools very large numbers of children who are capable of the higher education that the nation crucially needs them to have are unlikely to be motivated towards it or qualify for it.

The Government's welcome reforms are bound to take a very long time to remedy such a serious deterioration, as many teachers are saying. I strongly recommend a vigorous return to the fast-track schemes of selection that were once normal here and still are in large numbers of countries. If only as an emergency measure, let us at least identify the most educable children and give them a chance to contribute as they can and should. Yours etc, VICTOR SEREBRIAKOFF, Chairman, Mensa Foundation for Gifted Children, Mensa House, St John's Square, Wolverhampton, West Midlands.

From Mr Norman Windsor

Sir, Before considering her Majesty's Inspectors' annual report on schools can we raise half an eyebrow about the quality and credibility of the inspectors themselves.

Having accepted the "play-way" premise of the Plowden report some 30 years ago, they have subsequently presided over declining educational standards, culminating in the Government's imposition of a national curriculum. During this period of decline the only opposition to be heard was from the brave authors of the notorious "Black Papers".

As a young primary school teacher, I remember being advised that dictation was giving children a raw deal. Isn't it possible that the discipline of having to look closely at the structure of words might be a useful skill not unrelated to the art of scientific investigation? Do we still think that the nation's scientific future is completely dependent on the provision of sand and scales in the infant class? Yours faithfully, NORMAN WINDSOR, 5 Wexford Road, Wandsworth Common, SW12, February 10.

Student grants plan

From Sir Edward Parkes

Sir, Readers of your report, "MacGregor rejects academics' student loan plan" (February 12), may be confused as to what it is exactly that the vice-chancellors are suggesting.

Their proposal remains, as it has done since the publication of the White Paper, that all students should be eligible for a full grant without assessment of parental means. No part of this would be a loan. The cost would be covered by a contribution levied through the tax system on graduates who had earlier received the non-

means-tested grant. This contribution would be related to the graduates' income and not the amount received in grant.

Mr MacGregor's letter to me seems to be based on a misapprehension. His detailed objections to individual debt collection through the National Insurance system are not relevant to our scheme, which is for an income, not debt-related contribution. Yours faithfully, EDWARD PARKES (Chairman), Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals of the Universities of the United Kingdom, 29 Tavistock Square, WCI, February 12.

Food for thought

From Mr David H. Holder

Sir, As a businessman heavily involved in new projects in the USSR, I was particularly attracted to your report (February 11) on the opening of the Moscow McDonald's eating house.

The cost of a ticket for seat no. 10 in stalls box no. 8 at the Bolshoi theatre on January 10 — a superb seat for a magnificent evening's entertainment — was 2 roubles, 50 kopeks.

Your report gives the price of a beefburger as 3 roubles, 75 kopeks, so the residents of Moscow now have a choice. What would we give for such a choice? Yours sincerely, DAVID HOLDER, Collieston, Upper Moulsham, Chelmsford, Essex, February 6.

Meter reading

From Mr Barrie Luscombe

Sir, We are sorry we had to insist on access to a warrant to the home of Mr Banks (January 26). For meter reading and service we have tried to contact Mr Banks a total of 13 times in the past six months. The service contract for his address is with the London Borough of Islington; at our request they also tried to contact Mr Banks.

Letters and other communications were sent to Mr Banks, and on at least four occasions our meter reader, or service engineers, called at his address and there was no answer.

Mr Banks was given every opportunity, including specific numbers on which to contact our company. If Mr Banks had contacted us we could have made arrangements suitable to him. Yours faithfully, B. LUSCOMBE (Customer Accounting Manager), British Gas plc (North Thames), PO Box 100, Staines, Middlesex, February 2.

Control of tradesmen

From the Master of the Plumbers' Company

Sir, The problem of the "cowboy" plumber, to which the Chief Executive of the Institute of Plumbing (February 8) refers, is by no means new. Between 1892 and 1903 this company promoted no fewer than eight Bills in Parliament for the registration of plumbers, none of which became law. A further Bill, presented as recently as 1965, also failed.

It is as clear today as it was a century ago that Government action is urgently needed. Contamination of the mains water supply by faulty plumbing has already been canvassed as an example of a generally poor standard; an even more obvious example is the fact that only about one cover is sold for every 100 water tanks supplied to domestic properties. I remain, Sir, your obedient servant, M. G. WAYMAN, Master, The Worshipful Company of Plumbers, 21 Fleet Street, EC4, February 8.

Saving nature north and south

From the Director General, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds

Sir, The views expressed by Lord Campbell of Croy (January 27) help to clarify the decision-making process over the environment in Scotland. It is indeed the Secretary of State for Scotland who decides environmental and planning matters. It was he who authorised peat-digging at Dutch Moss, Islay, threatening the wintering grounds of the rare Greenland white-fronted goose. It was his Scottish Office that sanctioned destruction of the Flow Country peatlands through inappropriate conifer afforestation.

It was the Scottish Office that gave planning permission for a pipeline fabrication yard at Morrich More, Ross and Cromarty, threatening an estuary which is of international importance for wild birds. Many other areas of national and international importance for wildlife have suffered at the hands of the Secretary of State for Scotland.

In contrast, it was the Chancellor of the Exchequer, with his UK-side responsibilities, who closed the tax-loophole incentives for Flow Country forestry. It is only by having a Great Britain overview of our natural environment that the Nature Conservancy Council has been able to influence conservation in Scotland. That is why the RSPB opposes the Government's proposals to hand over NCC to the Secretaries of State for Scotland and Wales.

The Government has responded to our concerns by proposing a new joint committee to provide the Great Britain overview. We do not consider the national interests of conservation unless it is provided with a) statutory powers to direct nature conservation priorities in England, Scotland, and Wales; b) a budget which is independent from the three country agencies; and c) a full complement of policy and scientific staff.

The RSPB is not opposed to the reorganisation of NCC or the federalisation of its responsibilities. But we do want to ensure that nature conservation is delivered as effectively in Caithness as in Cornwall.

Yours faithfully, IAN PREST, Director General, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire, February 5.

Legal language

From the Principal Clerk of the Judicial Office

Sir, Mr C. N. Beattie, QC, (February 8) says that, in his last case before the House of Lords, he omitted the words "humble" and "your petitioner will ever pray" from the petition of appeal. The case to which he refers must, I think, be *Bird and others v. The Commissioners of Inland Revenue*, where Mr Beattie appeared for the appellants and where judgment was delivered in May, 1988.

I do not, of course, know in what form the petition left Mr Beattie's chambers, but I can vouch for the fact that it was presented to the House with all the required phrases, "humble" and all. Perhaps Mr Beattie's solicitors corrected the document before presentation.

Mr Beattie is also wrong to deny that the "humble language" is mandatory. The formulae with which petitions should begin and end are laid down by the "Directions as to Procedure" and although Mr Beattie may be right to say that the omission of certain words would not cause the scribes to fall, this has yet to be put to the test.

Yours faithfully, JAMES VALLANCE WHITE, Principal Clerk, Judicial Office, House of Lords, February 8.

From Miss Penelope E. Morgan

Sir, An even more disarming expression of good will is recorded in letters from petitioners to the Mayor of Hereford about 1661. They promised to "invoke the Almighty for your worship's External, Internal and Eternal happiness, etc." Yours faithfully, PENELOPE E. MORGAN, 6 The Cloisters, Cathedral Close, Hereford, February 5.

Unlikely skirl

From Mr M. H. M. Garton

Sir, Mrs Jack (February 9) was surprised to hear the bagpipes being practised above Crans Montana. My wife and I enjoyed their familiar sound far from home when we heard them being played at Paraguay's Caledonian Ball in Asunción in 1974. The pipe, again, was not a Scot, but Argentine, imported from Buenos Aires.

Equally entertaining were the evenings spent over the previous months teaching Paraguayans to dance Scottish reels. Yours faithfully, M. H. M. GARTON, The Old Vicarage, Sulgrave, Banbury, Oxfordshire, February 9.

From Mr Peter Dimond

Sir, I once had to examine a music candidate offering the bagpipes, in the front room of a small house. Yours faithfully, PETER DIMOND, The Cottage, Claycastle Lane, Haselbury Plucknett, Crewkerne, Somerset, February 9.

Floral Bouquet for Chanel

HOTLINE

Why the star of a new French film had no trouble choosing her wardrobe

When the French actress Carole Bouquet began working on her latest film role, as Florence, the beautiful wife in Bertrand Blier's award-winning film *Trop Belle Pour Toi* (opening in London on March 2), she had a clear idea of the clothes her character would wear.

"She had to look chic but understated," she says. "She had to wear pale colours to look vulnerable. She is nothing like me, not my style at all, but I was able to pull bits and pieces together for her from my own wardrobe."

The fact that Bouquet, with her classic good looks and sleek waterfall of glossy, dark hair, is the beauty who embodies the most celebrated scent in the world, Chanel No 5, means that the clothes from which she chose her screen wardrobe happened to be mostly Chanel. They certainly convey understated chic, assured yet seductive. There are no aggressive angles in a wool bouclé cardigan suit, with or without the traditional ton of pearls. This is the uniform that suggests racy silk underwear worn beneath surface respectability. Like Coco Chanel, Bouquet understands the power of dress.

Her pale, uncluttered apartment on the Left Bank testifies to her enjoyment of luxurious simplicity, with comfortable wide sofas covered in white linen, and no paintings to punctuate the whiteness of the walls, only flowers, casually massed on an orderly desk. She lives with the photographer Francis Giacobetti, and their two sons, Dimitri, aged eight, and two-year-old Louis. She loves the freedom and luxury afforded by her Chanel clothes, which she mixes with comfortable corduroy trousers



Five star: Carole Bouquet in Chanel tweed jacket; 26 Old Bond St, W1; 31 Sloane St, SW3

and blue jeans, inches of red sock visible between turn-up and crocodile Chanel loafers.

Unlike *laë de la Pressange* who, until her spectacular and public bust-up with Karl Lagerfeld, the designer at Chanel, appeared fused in style with Chanel herself, Bouquet never pushes the look too far. She is not paid to be a

model. "When you look in my closet, you find Chanel clothes, but on me they look completely Carole Bouquet," she says.

"I feel lost in anything fussy. I forget who I am." So, no bows or fake gardenias; instead of the uniform ropes of fake pearls and jewel-studded chains, Bouquet prefers the

yellow sapphires, citrines, that match the sparkle of her green eyes, and the discreet 18th-century jewellery she collects, much of it bought at S.J. Phillips in Bond Street, or in the Burlington Arcade, on her frequent visits to London.

Her taste in scent is just as clearly defined. "It belongs only to me," she says.

Cristalle, Chanel's light, lemony fragrance created in 1977, was an early favourite. When she was picked by Jacques Polge, Chanel's perfumer, in 1987 to be the face to relaunch No 5 in its new, lighter *eau de parfum* guise, he made a special formula for her, a little lighter and more floral.

Among the foot-high bottles of Chanel No 5 that dominate her all-white bathroom are a few stray flasks from Penhaligon, Trumplers, Annouk Goutal, and even a bottle of Lauder's White Linen. "They all belong to Francis," she says dismissively.

● The fashionable, natural look in make-up, as demonstrated here on Carole Bouquet by her *visagiste*, Jacques Clemente, is as much the product of powder and paint as any artificial mask, and needs twice the skill in application. To help customers achieve such flawless perfection, Chanel is holding a series of two-hour beauty seminars at Selfridges. Individual skin analysis is followed by instructions on how to apply the natural-looking make-up. The booking fee is £10, redeemable against any purchase of a Chanel product after the class. To enrol, telephone the Chanel consultant at Selfridges (01-629 1234). Chanel Beauty Seminars will be held from March 1-10 at 10.30am-12.30pm and 2.30-4.30pm on weekdays, 10.30am-12.30pm only on Saturdays, with an additional evening class on Thursdays (March 1 and 8) at 6-8pm.

● That Coco Chanel could stand for nine hours at a stretch to fit, tweak, rip and coax a collection into shape, without eating, drinking or going to the lavatory, and that she kept her hat on even when taking a bath, are among the intimate details revealed in a new book, *Chanel m'a dit* (Editions Latès, 85 francs). Written by Lilou Marquand, a former journalist with *L'Express*, sister of the actor Christian Marquand, and the couturier's right-hand woman and confidante from 1954 to 1971, it covers the years between the comeback collection shown on February 5 (that lucky number 5 again), 1954, when Chanel was 70, to her death in 1971.

When John Galiano cuts cloth the results are



Above: Cream knitted cotton cropped vest, £127; blue checked cotton side-draped skirt, £165; John Galiano. Pendant on leather thong, £23; drop earrings, £28; both Butler & Wilson, 20 South Molton Street, London W1; 189 Fulham Road, SW3; Harrods, SW1

SHISEIDO

LE MAQUILLAGE

marie claire
PRIX
D'EXCELLENCE
DE LA BEAUTE
1989
MAQUILLAGE

The world recognises Japan yet again.

As the entire Shiseido overseas makeup

line is awarded the Prix d'Excellence

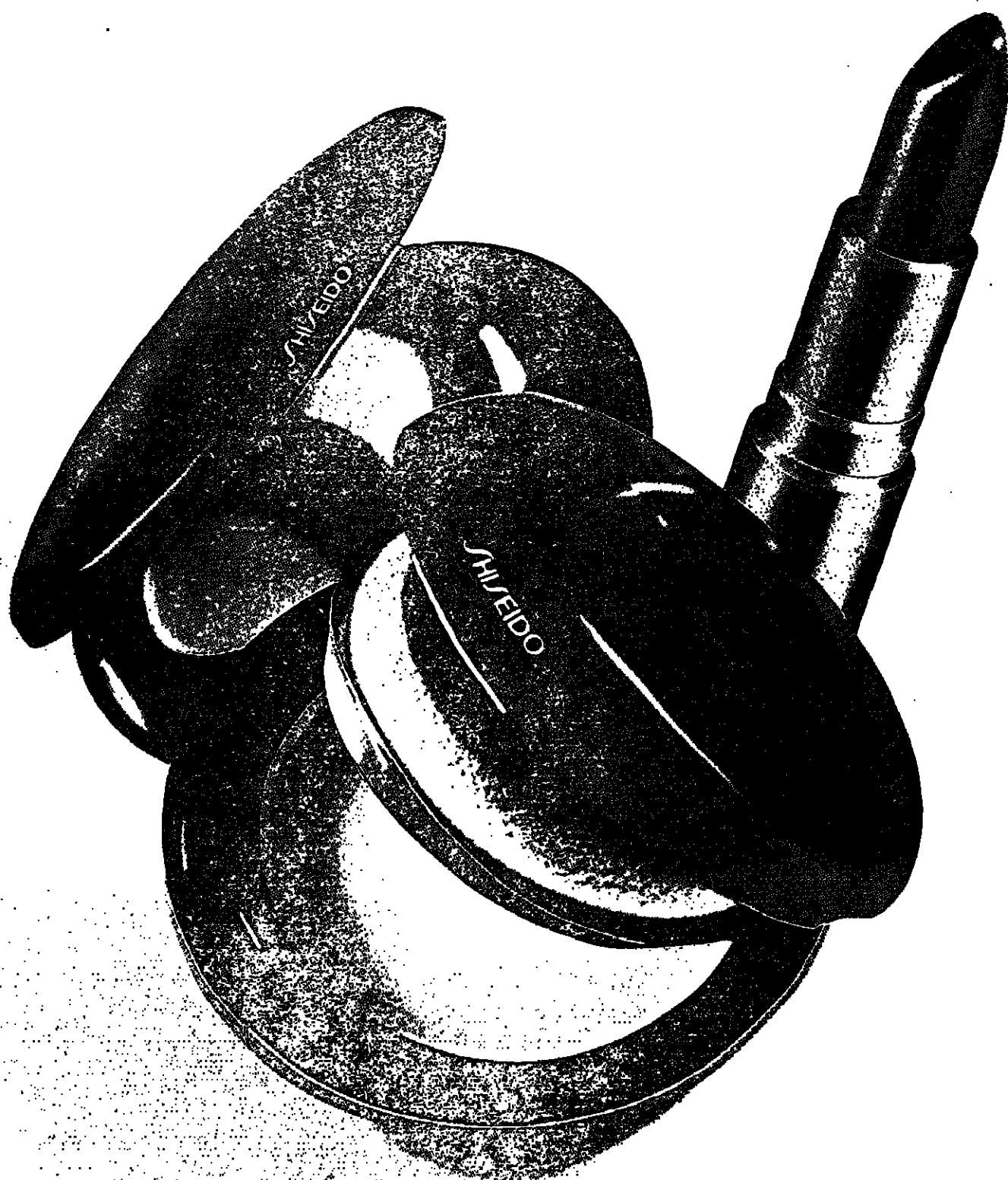
de la Beauté '89.

The most coveted beauty prize of all.

SHISEIDO

Because beauty is timeless.

Not ageless.



never simple — 'nothing is flat, there must be a third dimension'. His new, relaxed, lower-priced sportswear line is no exception



Left: Side-wrapped, square-collared white towelling robe edged in black, £322; striped towelling bag, £85; white cotton Lycra swimsuit, £80; sandals, £80; all John Galiano. Straw hat, £72, Fred Barr at Jones, 13 Floral Street, WC2; Tanners, NW3; Successories, Cirencester. Sunglasses, £16.50. Samco at Selfridges, W1; Harrods, SW1.

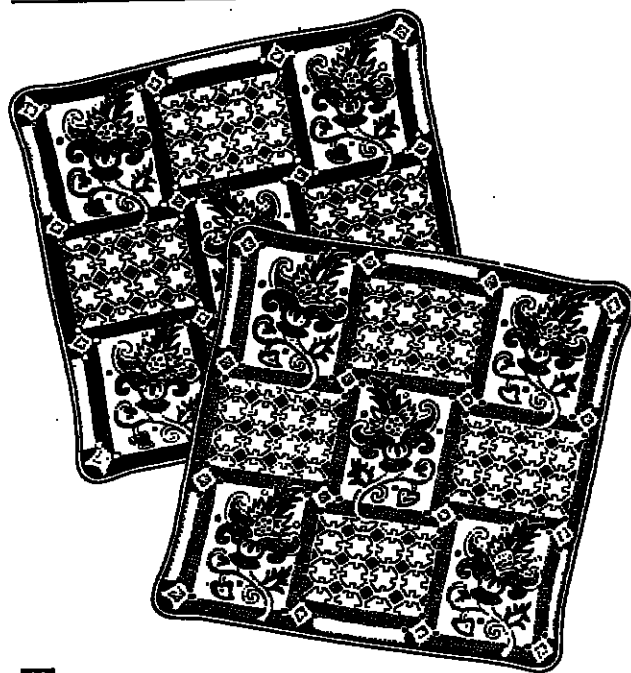
Above: Side-draped white cotton jersey vest, £80; matching skirt, £120, John Galiano. Gift bangles, £198, Butler & Wilson. Gold pendant, £105, Robert Lee Morris for Donna Karan at Browns, 23-27 South Molton Street, W1; 6c Sloane Street, SW1

John Galliano stockists include Harrods, SW1; Joseph branches; Janet Fitch, 2 Percy Street, W1; Pellicano, 63 South Molton Street, W1; ichi ni San, Glasgow; Knightsbridge, Leicester; J.R. Taylor, St Annes on Sea, Lancs; Peaches and Cream, Newcastle upon Tyne

Hair by Joe Carney for Daniel Galvin; make-up by Martin Pretorius

A LUCINDA GANDERTON DESIGN FOR

EHRMAN TAPESTRY

[illegible]

FOR QUERIES ABOUT THE
Exhman Kite Limited, 21/22 Victoria Gate, London W8 4AA. Registered No. 1978804.
Please allow 28 days for delivery. Money back if kit returned unused within 14 days.

TO: EHRMAN, FREEPOST, LONDON W8 4BR

Please send me _____ tapestry kits at £28.50 each.

My choice of colourway is: ☐ Darker ☐ Paler _____ (total)

I enclose cheque/P.O. made out to Ehrman for £ _____

Name _____

Address _____

TMS/90

Few fashion designers boast a handwriting so distinctive that even when simplified to the bare outline of a plain white T-shirt, it is still recognizable.

Doodling sketches of T-shirts that encapsulate well-known designers' idiosyncrasies, as I do during many of the interminable waits for fashion shows to start, is one way to pinpoint those with a definitive style. An off-the-shoulder tazepe? Lacroix, of course. A tightly-ruched T-shirt with a ruffle or two? Ungaro. A laced-front bustier inset in a T-shirt? Just one of a dozen for Saint Laurent.

A rather wayward scoop of a neckline, followed by a bias scoop at a sharp angle to the side, would be my over-simplified pastiche of a T-shirt by John Galiano. One of the few British designers with an assertive signature style instantly recognizable among fashion enthusiasts around the world, Galiano has moved on to the international map by defecting from London to join the group of design stars who show in the tents in the Louvre next month.

When a piece of fabric is cut into cloth, nothing is ever as simple as it appears. "Nothing is flat," he explains. "There must be a third dimension." So Galliano pushes the arc of a bias cut a few degrees further than most. A sleeve curves like a comma. A "blown-away" collar rises in a burst of folds from a flat tailored jacket. He describes the cut of one of his flatterers, high-waisted skirts as "a figure of eight." Many *Times* readers will remember an exclusive Galliano knitting pattern a few years ago, where the seemingly dotty instructions for a neckline centred somewhere around the navel resulted in a typical halter draped across the shoulders.

With a few simple strokes in cotton and Lycra, Galliano has distilled his technically skilled style in a new collection of sportswear reaching the shops now. The new line introduces his distinctive

detailing — a double-halter neckline that you yank into different angles off the shoulder, a waterfall-front T-shirt, a sharp-angled, bias-cut skirt — in a range of swimskins, cotton jersey skirts and flared shorts, trousers and tops. Skinny cycling shorts and generously baggy cotton jersey shorts, swimming trunks and T-shirts for men, plus full-length towelling robes, beach bags, towels, sandals and swimwear complete the collection. Colours are mainly black, white and red, plain or striped. Swimskins for women, matt, draped and sat, also come in a choice of navy, green, turquoise, aubergine and blue.

Galliano's technical skills, matched to a single-minded romantic vision, had come to the notice of the fashion world long before he graduated from St Martin's School of Art in 1984. In 1987 he won the British Fashion Council's Designer of the Year award.

Galliano's response to suggestions that his clothes are difficult to wear and their cut too off-beat to integrate into a basic wardrobe was to parade some of his latest collection with an odd mix of Adidas track pants, satin boxer shorts, brastraples and tribal headwraps. "I have always treated my garments liberally," he wanted to show it was cool to mix pieces of Galliano with everything," he explains.

Of his new collection, Galliano says: "Fashion is more relaxed in 1990. This is the essence of my line." Backed by Paris' *Le Monde*, the French fashion impresario and retailer, Galliano incurs the final test of his commercial clout with his move to the Paris stage and the launch of this lower-priced line.

● John Galliano designed the costume for Corralao, Ashley Page's new work for the Ballet Rambert, which opened at the Theatr Clwyd, Mold, in Wales last Friday. It will be staged at Sadler's Wells for a week from March 13.

**Diana has the glamour
but are we fair to Fergie...
and what about Anne?**
(it's a right royal saga)



OUT NOW

New Woman. You can't be one without it.

INFORMATION SERVICE

Barbican virtuosity

In terms of executive skill, Martha Argerich (right) is one of the most formidable pianists of her generation, though it has often been said that her brilliance is not always employed with enough discrimination. Certainly, given her dazzling virtuosity, it is a surprising venture for her to join Mischa Maisky at the Barbican Centre tonight in a selection of Beethoven's lesser works for cello and piano. There is, indeed, a remarkably symmetrical programme, consisting of two sonatas, and two sets of variations, both the latter on themes from Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte*. The sonatas are the Op 5 pair, the *Musica da Camera* and the *Musica da Camera* and the Op 5 pair, the *Musica da Camera* and the *Musica da Camera*.



Symmetrical: Martha Argerich performs at the Barbican Centre tonight

■ **WHEN HARRY MET SALLY** (15): Engaging romantic comedy, with Sally Field and Billy Crystal. Directed by Rob Reiner (95 min). Cannon Classics (01-352 5089). Progs 1.40, 4.00, 7.20, 9.45.

■ **TRAGIC SCHUBERT**: John Forster conducts the RCM Sinfonietta in Schubert's Symphony No 4 "The Trout". Directed by John Forster (100 min). Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **SANDERLING SOUNDS**: The LPO is conducted by Kurt Sanderling in Haydn's *Fidelio* and Beethoven's *Leonore Overture No 1*. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **MARC MARCUS**: The American soprano Marcia Marcus sings *Lieder* by Brahms and Richard Strauss, with the BBC Singers. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **LA FORZA DEL DESTINO**: New production for Scottish Opera by Elijah Moshinsky is conducted by John Nesch. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **PRINCE IGOR**: Andrei Serban's new and surprisingly spectacular production for the Royal Opera House is conducted by John Nesch. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **COHEN CONCERT**: The violinist Raymond Cohen performs Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* and Beethoven's *Violin Concerto*. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **ZOHAR ROTEM-NELKINE**: Wendy Zohar Rotem-Nelkine performs *Chopin's Nocturne* and *Chopin's Scherzo*. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **LA BOHEME**: Peter Knapp's young travelling Opera presents his revival of Puccini's *La Bohème*. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **BARRELL DANCE MUSIC**: The pianist Richard Barrell lets us hear his own compositions. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **ARNALDO COHEN**: Sponsored by Filmtrack, this pianist plays Liszt's *Sonata in E-flat major* and *Sonata in E-flat major*. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **SOUTHERN ARTS SIMPSON**: The Da Civic Trio gives the world premiere of Robert Simpson's *Southern Arts-fund*. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **INNOCENT ONDINE**: Torka's *Ceremony of Innocence* is heard from the Ondine Ensemble, as are lives of the composer. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **LA FORZA DEL DESTINO**: New production for Scottish Opera by Elijah Moshinsky is conducted by John Nesch. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **PRINCE IGOR**: Andrei Serban's new and surprisingly spectacular production for the Royal Opera House is conducted by John Nesch. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **COHEN CONCERT**: The violinist Raymond Cohen performs Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* and Beethoven's *Violin Concerto*. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **ZOHAR ROTEM-NELKINE**: Wendy Zohar Rotem-Nelkine performs *Chopin's Nocturne* and *Chopin's Scherzo*. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **LA FORZA DEL DESTINO**: New production for Scottish Opera by Elijah Moshinsky is conducted by John Nesch. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **PRINCE IGOR**: Andrei Serban's new and surprisingly spectacular production for the Royal Opera House is conducted by John Nesch. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **COHEN CONCERT**: The violinist Raymond Cohen performs Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* and Beethoven's *Violin Concerto*. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **ZOHAR ROTEM-NELKINE**: Wendy Zohar Rotem-Nelkine performs *Chopin's Nocturne* and *Chopin's Scherzo*. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **LA FORZA DEL DESTINO**: New production for Scottish Opera by Elijah Moshinsky is conducted by John Nesch. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **PRINCE IGOR**: Andrei Serban's new and surprisingly spectacular production for the Royal Opera House is conducted by John Nesch. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **COHEN CONCERT**: The violinist Raymond Cohen performs Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* and Beethoven's *Violin Concerto*. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **ZOHAR ROTEM-NELKINE**: Wendy Zohar Rotem-Nelkine performs *Chopin's Nocturne* and *Chopin's Scherzo*. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **LA FORZA DEL DESTINO**: New production for Scottish Opera by Elijah Moshinsky is conducted by John Nesch. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **PRINCE IGOR**: Andrei Serban's new and surprisingly spectacular production for the Royal Opera House is conducted by John Nesch. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **COHEN CONCERT**: The violinist Raymond Cohen performs Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* and Beethoven's *Violin Concerto*. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **ZOHAR ROTEM-NELKINE**: Wendy Zohar Rotem-Nelkine performs *Chopin's Nocturne* and *Chopin's Scherzo*. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **LA BOHEME**: Peter Knapp's young travelling Opera presents his revival of Puccini's *La Bohème*. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **BARRELL DANCE MUSIC**: The pianist Richard Barrell lets us hear his own compositions. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **ARNALDO COHEN**: Sponsored by Filmtrack, this pianist plays Liszt's *Sonata in E-flat major* and *Sonata in E-flat major*. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **SOUTHERN ARTS SIMPSON**: The Da Civic Trio gives the world premiere of Robert Simpson's *Southern Arts-fund*. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **INNOCENT ONDINE**: Torka's *Ceremony of Innocence* is heard from the Ondine Ensemble, as are lives of the composer. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **LA FORZA DEL DESTINO**: New production for Scottish Opera by Elijah Moshinsky is conducted by John Nesch. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **PRINCE IGOR**: Andrei Serban's new and surprisingly spectacular production for the Royal Opera House is conducted by John Nesch. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **COHEN CONCERT**: The violinist Raymond Cohen performs Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* and Beethoven's *Violin Concerto*. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **ZOHAR ROTEM-NELKINE**: Wendy Zohar Rotem-Nelkine performs *Chopin's Nocturne* and *Chopin's Scherzo*. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **LA FORZA DEL DESTINO**: New production for Scottish Opera by Elijah Moshinsky is conducted by John Nesch. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **PRINCE IGOR**: Andrei Serban's new and surprisingly spectacular production for the Royal Opera House is conducted by John Nesch. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **COHEN CONCERT**: The violinist Raymond Cohen performs Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* and Beethoven's *Violin Concerto*. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **ZOHAR ROTEM-NELKINE**: Wendy Zohar Rotem-Nelkine performs *Chopin's Nocturne* and *Chopin's Scherzo*. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **LA FORZA DEL DESTINO**: New production for Scottish Opera by Elijah Moshinsky is conducted by John Nesch. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **PRINCE IGOR**: Andrei Serban's new and surprisingly spectacular production for the Royal Opera House is conducted by John Nesch. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **COHEN CONCERT**: The violinist Raymond Cohen performs Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* and Beethoven's *Violin Concerto*. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **ZOHAR ROTEM-NELKINE**: Wendy Zohar Rotem-Nelkine performs *Chopin's Nocturne* and *Chopin's Scherzo*. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **LA FORZA DEL DESTINO**: New production for Scottish Opera by Elijah Moshinsky is conducted by John Nesch. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **PRINCE IGOR**: Andrei Serban's new and surprisingly spectacular production for the Royal Opera House is conducted by John Nesch. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **COHEN CONCERT**: The violinist Raymond Cohen performs Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* and Beethoven's *Violin Concerto*. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

■ **ZOHAR ROTEM-NELKINE**: Wendy Zohar Rotem-Nelkine performs *Chopin's Nocturne* and *Chopin's Scherzo*. Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, London SW7 (01-589 3633), 7pm.

★ **IRENE REID**: Bluesy, Dinah Washington-style selections from the new *Brandenburg* album, *The Lady From Savannah*. Adept backing from the trio led by organist Mike Carr. The support slot is occupied by the Danish band, *Page One*. Royal Albert Hall, 4th Floor, 100 Chiswick Rd, Uxbridge, 9.30pm, £10 (members £2). To Feb 24.

★ **HOWARD RILEY**: The second night of the pianist's "Project" residency finds him in the uncompromising company of bassist Paul Rogers and drummer Tony Levin. Vortex Jazz Bar, 135 Stoke Newington Church St, London N16 (01-254 6516), 8.30pm, £3.

★ **BRIAN ABRAHAM'S DISTRICT SIX**: Their latest album, *Impassioned*, is an upsurge in the band's more accessible township melodies. The Met, London SW1 (01-838 6561), 8.30pm, £5.

★ **DELICIOUS SOLITUDE**: Charcoal drawings by John Hubbard and photographs by Paul Joyce of 19th-century sub-tropical gardens in Dorset and the Solihull area. Royal Bank Centre, London SE1 (01-828 3002), daily 10am-10pm, free, until April 13.

★ **DENNIS CREEFIELD**: Charcoal drawings of all 36 of England's medieval cathedrals, the result of an Arts Council commission. Bury St Edmunds Art Gallery, Market Cross (0284 62011), Tues-Sat 10.30am-4.30pm, free, until March 4.

★ **AIDS AND NOBODY WANTS TO KNOW**: Drawings and paintings by Diana Constantine. Camden Arts Centre, Arkwright Rd, London N1C (01-435 2643), Mon-Fri 10.30am-6.30pm, Sat-Sun noon-6pm, free, until Feb 25.

★ **MAURIZIO MOCCHETTI**: Two installations incorporating lessons by an Italian conceptual artist. Below: Edward Tufte Gallery, 13 Old Burlington St, London W1 (01-734 0343), Mon 2-6pm, Tues-Fri 11am-6pm, Sat 11am-5pm, free, until March 5.

★ **ELISE HENDERSON (1880-1957)**: Paintings, drawings and prints, many depicting animals, by an accomplished, peculiarly English artist of the inter-war years. Sally Hunter Fine Art, 11 Halkyn Arcade, Motcomb St, London SW1 (01-235 0934), Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, free, until March 2.

★ **CONRAD ATKINSON**: New works by an artist whose prints, collages, paintings and tapestries comment - often controversially - on current political issues. Anne Barlow Gallery, 10 Clifford St, London W1 (01-437 1645), Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-1pm, free, until March 10.

★ **F.E. McWILLIAM**: Murbury wood sculptures, 1988-89, by the surrealist whose eighteen birthday retrospective was held last year at the Tate. The Mayor Gallery, 22a Cork St, London W1 (01-734 3558), Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-1pm, free, until March 10.

★ **THE MAYOR**: Murbury wood sculptures, 1988-89, by the surrealist whose eighteen birthday retrospective was held last year at the Tate. The Mayor Gallery, 22a Cork St, London W1 (01-734 3558), Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-1pm, free, until March 10.

★ **VAN MORRISON**: "Whenever God Shines His Light", the duet with Cilla Black, was his first Top 40 hit since the bad old days with Them. SECC, Finnieston St, Glasgow (041 248 8200), 7pm, £10.

★ **FURNITURE**: They had a solitary success in 1988 with "Brilliant Mind", and are now hoping to make a belated comeback with the forthcoming album *Food, Sex & Paradise*. Dushan, 77-79 Finsbury Lane, Leeds (0532 453229), 7.30pm, £3.

★ **LA TRAVIATA**: Andre Prokory's treatment for London City Ballet. Key Theatre, Peterborough (0735 5259), 7.30pm, £7.

★ **ST GEORGE'S**: Dance Theatre piece by Dance Unlimited - an unknown work. The Place, Dukes Rd, London WC1 (01-387 0031), 8pm, £5.

★ **THE NATURE OF HOPKINS**: An evening of jazz and poetry from pianist Sam Tracey and actress Irene Kyrle. Inspired by the work of Gerard Manley Hopkins. The Studio, University of Warwick Arts Centre, Gibbet Hill Rd, Coventry (0203 417417/41924), 7.45pm, £4.50.

★ **THE NATURE OF HOPKINS**: An evening of jazz and poetry from pianist Sam Tracey and actress Irene Kyrle. Inspired by the work of Gerard Manley Hopkins. The Studio, University of Warwick Arts Centre, Gibbet Hill Rd, Coventry (0203 417417/41924), 7.45pm, £4.50.

★ **THE NATURE OF HOPKINS**: An evening of jazz and poetry from pianist Sam Tracey and actress Irene Kyrle. Inspired by the work of Gerard Manley Hopkins. The Studio, University of Warwick Arts Centre, Gibbet Hill Rd, Coventry (0203 417417/41924), 7.45pm, £4.50.

★ **THE NATURE OF HOPKINS**: An evening of jazz and poetry from pianist Sam Tracey and actress Irene Kyrle. Inspired by the work of Gerard Manley Hopkins. The Studio, University of Warwick Arts Centre, Gibbet Hill Rd, Coventry (0203 417417/41924), 7.45pm, £4.50.

★ **THE NATURE OF HOPKINS**: An evening of jazz and poetry from pianist Sam Tracey and actress Irene Kyrle. Inspired by the work of Gerard Manley Hopkins. The Studio, University of Warwick Arts Centre, Gibbet Hill Rd, Coventry (0203 417417/41924), 7.45pm, £4.50.

★ **THE NATURE OF HOPKINS**: An evening of jazz and poetry from pianist Sam Tracey and actress Irene Kyrle. Inspired by the work of Gerard Manley Hopkins. The Studio, University of Warwick Arts Centre, Gibbet Hill Rd, Coventry (0203 417417/41924), 7.45pm, £4.50.

★ **THE NATURE OF HOPKINS**: An evening of jazz and poetry from pianist Sam Tracey and actress Irene Kyrle. Inspired by the work of Gerard Manley Hopkins. The Studio, University of Warwick Arts Centre, Gibbet Hill Rd, Coventry (0203 417417/41924), 7.45pm, £4.50.

★ **THE NATURE OF HOPKINS**: An evening of jazz and poetry from pianist Sam Tracey and actress Irene Kyrle. Inspired by the work of Gerard Manley Hopkins. The Studio, University of Warwick Arts Centre, Gibbet Hill Rd, Coventry (0203 417417/41924), 7.45pm, £4.50.

★ **THE NATURE OF HOPKINS**: An evening of jazz and poetry from pianist Sam Tracey and actress Irene Kyrle. Inspired by the work of Gerard Manley Hopkins. The Studio, University of Warwick Arts Centre, Gibbet Hill Rd, Coventry (0203 417417/41924), 7.45pm, £4.50.

★ **THE NATURE OF HOPKINS**: An evening of jazz and poetry from pianist Sam Tracey and actress Irene Kyrle. Inspired by the work of Gerard Manley Hopkins. The Studio, University of Warwick Arts Centre, Gibbet Hill Rd, Coventry (0203 417417/41924), 7.45pm, £4.50.

★ **THE NATURE OF HOPKINS**: An evening of jazz and poetry from pianist Sam Tracey and actress Irene Kyrle. Inspired by the work of Gerard Manley Hopkins. The Studio, University of Warwick Arts Centre, Gibbet Hill Rd, Coventry (0203 417417/41924), 7.45pm, £4.50.

★ **THE NATURE OF HOPKINS**: An evening of jazz and poetry from pianist Sam Tracey and actress Irene Kyrle. Inspired by the work of Gerard Manley Hopkins. The Studio, University of Warwick Arts Centre, Gibbet Hill Rd, Coventry (0203 417417/41924), 7.45pm, £4.50.

★ **THE NATURE OF HOPKINS**: An evening of jazz and poetry from pianist Sam Tracey and actress Irene Kyrle. Inspired by the work of Gerard Manley Hopkins. The Studio, University of Warwick Arts Centre, Gibbet Hill Rd, Coventry (0203 417417/41924), 7.45pm, £4.50.

★ **THE SHERLOCK HOLMES TRAIL OF MYSTERY**: Meet Baker Street tube, 10.30am, £3.50 (01-837 4261).

★ **THE BURIED CITY** - LONDON: Beneath the streets: Meet Blackheath tube, 11.30am, £3.50 (01-837 4261).

★ **UNIVERSITY SPECIAL LECTURE**: Dr Richard S.J. Frackowiak from the Hammersmith Hospital, London, talks on the functional anatomy of the human brain. Anatomy Lecture Theatre, University College, London, Gower St, London WC1, 5.30pm, free.

★ **ICA LECTURE**: D.M. Thomas discusses his life and work with Wendy Perham, whose latest novel, *First Minute Hour*, explores themes close to Thomas's heart. ICA, The Mall, London SW1 (01-830 0493), 1pm, free (membership fee).

★ **NEW DANCE**: Artistic director of The Place, John Ashford, discusses the recent surge in the popularity of dance. The Met, London SW1 (01-838 6561), 7.30pm, free (membership fee).

★ **LITERATURE OF THE SOUTH BANK**: Readings by and from the work of Charles Mungoshi, the bi-lingual novelist, poet and short story writer. The Victoria Box, Level Five, Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-828 8800), 7.30pm, adults £2.50, students £1.50.

★ **STRIP SEARCH: THE NEW BREED OF COMICS**: See picture, below. Exhibition Hall, Swiss Cottage Library, 88 Avenue Rd, London NW3. Until March 17, Mon and Thurs 9.30am-5pm, Tues 10am-5pm, Fri 9.30am-5pm, Sat 9.30am-5pm, closed Wed and Sun, free.

★ **THE LONDON ANTIQUES DEALERS FAIR**: Occupying three floors of the Café Royal, 60 leading English and European dealers exhibit and sell fine furniture, silver, porcelain, jewellery and paintings. Dealers to pre-1830, 1830-1914, 1914-1945, 1945-1980, 1980-1990, 1990-1999, 2000-2009, 2010-2019, 2020-2029, 2030-2039, 2040-2049, 2050-2059, 2060-2069, 2070-2079, 2080-2089, 2090-2099, 2100-2109, 2110-2119, 2120-2129, 2130-2139, 2140-2149, 2150-2159, 2160-2169, 2170-2179, 2180-2189, 2190-2199, 2200-2209, 2210-2219, 2220-2229, 2230-2239, 2240-2249, 2250-2259, 2260-2269, 2270-2279, 2280-2289, 2290-2299, 2300-2309, 2310-2319, 2320-2329, 2330-2339, 2340-2349, 2350-2359, 2360-2369, 2370-2379, 2380-2389, 2390-2399, 2400-2409, 2410-2419, 2420-2429, 2430-2439, 2440-2449, 2450-2459, 2460-2469, 2470-2479, 2480-2489, 2490-2499, 2500-2509, 2510-2519, 2520-2529, 2530-2539, 2540-2549, 2550-2559, 2560-2569, 2570-2579, 2580-2589, 2590-2599, 2600-2609, 2610-2619, 2620-2629, 2630-2639, 2640-2649, 2650-2659, 2660-2669, 2670-2679, 2680-2689, 2690-2699, 2700-2709, 2710-2719, 2720-2729, 2730-2739, 2740-2749, 2750-2759, 2760-2769, 2770-2779, 2780-2789, 2790-2799, 2800-2809, 2810-2819, 2820-2829, 2830-2839, 2840-2849, 2850-2859, 2860-2869, 2870-2879, 2880-2889, 2890-2899, 2900-2909, 2910-2919, 2920-2929, 2930-2939, 2940-2949, 2950-2959, 2960-2969, 2970-2979, 2980-2989, 2990-2999, 3000-3009, 3010-3019, 3020-3029, 3030-3039, 3040-3049, 3050-3059, 3060-3069, 3070-3079, 3080-3089, 3090-3099, 3100-3109, 3110-3119, 3120-3129, 3130-3139, 3140-3149, 3150-3159, 3160-3169, 3170-3179, 3180-3189, 3190-3199, 3200-3209, 3210-3219, 3220-3229, 3230-3239, 3240-3249, 3250-3259, 3260-3269, 3270-3279, 3280-3289, 3290-3299, 3300-3309, 3310-3319, 3320-3329, 3330-3339, 3340-3349, 3350-3359, 3360-3369, 3370-3379, 3380-3389, 3390-3399, 3400-3409, 3410-3419, 3420-3429, 3430-3439, 3440-3449, 3450-3459, 3460-3469, 3470-3479, 3480-3489, 3490-3499, 3500-3509, 3510-3519, 3520-3529, 3530-3539, 3540-3549, 3550-3559, 3560-3569, 3570-3579, 3580-3589, 3590-3599, 3600-3609, 3610-3619, 3620-3629, 3630-3639, 3640-3649, 3650-3659, 3660-3669, 3670-3679, 3680-3689, 3690-3699, 3700-3709, 3710-3719, 3720-3729, 3730-3739, 3740-3749, 3750-3759, 3760-3769, 3770-3779, 3780-3789, 3790-3799, 3800-3809, 3810-3819, 3820-3829, 3830-3839, 3840-3849, 3850-3859, 3860-3869, 3870-3879, 3880-3889, 3890-3899, 3900-3909, 3910-3919, 3920-3929, 3930-3939, 3940-3949, 3950-3959, 3960-3969, 3970-3979, 3980-3989, 3990-3999, 4000-4009, 4010-4019, 4020-4029, 4030-4039, 4040-4049, 4050-4059, 4060-4069, 4070-4079, 40

**Compiled by Susan Thomson
and Gillian Maxey**

Peter Waymark

● **Sex, Politics and Alan Ayckbourn** (BBC1, 10.20pm) is a useful primer from the *Omnibus* stable on the career and thoughts of the dramatist whose 37th play (or is it the 38th?) opens in London tomorrow. Interviewed by the theatre critic Michael Billington, Ayckbourn ruminates on good and evil, marriage and family life and why his plays go down less well in New York than in Japan or Germany. Billington shows how Ayckbourn's work has become steadily darker and deeper until it has nearly reached the point where comedy and tragedy are inseparable.

SATELLITE

RADIO 3

<p>University (FM)</p> <p>and News</p> <p>Concert:</p> <p>John (Calm Sea</p> <p>perous Voyage:</p> <p>Philharmonic</p> <p>under Bernard</p> <p>Enesco (Romanian</p> <p>Ny No 2 (q D. Op. 11:</p>	<p>1.00pen News</p> <p>1.05 Glazunov and G</p> <p>Hanson String Cu</p> <p>Peter Hanson, vio</p> <p>Juda, violin, Yuko</p> <p>vols, Lionel Harn</p> <p>performs Glazunov</p> <p>No 3 in G, Op. 2</p> <p>slave"); Gikls (A</p> <p>2)</p> <p>2.05 The Danube: A m</p>
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

- 00 Alfred Hitchcock Presents: Bang! You're Dead. A six-year-old girl is delighted when she finds a real gun and five ammunition in her uncle's luggage and goes to play war games with her older companions
- 30 Donahue. *Taking Care of your Heart: Fed or Health?*
- 30 Quiz Night. Inter pub and club general knowledge quiz contest. Hosted by Ross King
- 00 Entertainment UK. Weekly guide to the latest in films, music and theatre from all over the country
- 00 ITN Morning News with Anne

[illegible]

ONE TEES As London except: 1.20p News
1.30-2.00 Cover Story (Robert
Grady) 2.10-3.40 Home & Away 3.50 Northern Line
4.00-4.30 News 4.35-5.00 The 11th Hour 5.05
5.10-6.00 Equizster 11.30p Crime Story 12.35am
at Duty 1.30p Wrestling 2.15 Film: Blind Alley 4.10
at Britain 4.40-5.00 Jobfinder

STER As London except: 1.20p News

EUROSPORT

Philadelphia Flyers 11.00 North American Indoor Tennis Championships 10.00pm Ringside – Best of Superbouts: Muhammad Ali v Leon Spinks 2.00 Tennis Legends 3.00 Motor Sport 4.00 College Basketball 5.30 Goals 6.00 Eurosport – Saturday Week! 7.00 Indoor Football: European Championships 8.00 Motor Sport 9.00 WWF Superstars of Wrestling 10.00 Basketball 12.00 Bodybuilding

MTV

10.00pm Kristiane Becker 11.00 Remote Control 11.30 Club MTV 12.00

mmh 4.00-3 from 1 4.15 Marcel Vanthilt
90 Coca-Cola Report 4.45 Marcel
th 5.00 Remota Control 5.30 Ray
ikes 7.30 Club MTV 8.30 Yoi 8.30
ropean Top 20 10.00 Coca-Cola Report
1.15 Maiken Wexo 1.00am Videos

SCREENSPORT

00am Football 8.45 Spain Spain
ort 9.00 Rally Championships 10.00
ding 11.30 Ice Hockey 1.30am
rd Invitational Club Basketball 3.00
persports 4.00 Ice Hockey 6.00 1989
mate Yacht Race 7.30 Football 9.30

LIFESTYLE

10.00am James Fitness Minute **10.01**
Search for Tomorrow **10.30** Slim Cooking
10.55 Spain Spain Cookery **11.00**
Tea Break **11.10** Edge of Night **11.35**
Best American Gameshows **12.50pm**
Dy Talk **12.55** Sally Jessy Raphael **1.50**
Rich Also Cry **2.40** Search for
Tomorrow **3.05** Tea Break **3.10** Cinema
5 Great American Gameshows

Full information on satellite TV
programmes is available in the weekly

RADIO CHOICE

RADIO 2

FM Stereo and MW
News on the hour
Headlines 5.30am, 6.30,
7.30, 8.30
1.00am Alex Lester 5.30
Chris Stuart 7.30 Derek Jameson
3.30 Ken Bruce 11.00 Jimmy
Young 1.05pm David Jacobs 2.0
Olivia Hunniford 3.30 Adrian
Love 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 The
Radio Orchestra Show 8.05
When Housewives Had the Choice
10.00 The Hot Club 10.30 The
Game's The Game 11.00 Round
Midnight 1.05am Nightride
1.00-4.00 A Little Night Music

8.30 **News**
8.35 **Composers of the West:**
Shostakovich —
Propagandist Music for the
film *The Unforgettable Year*
1919 (English Chamber
Orchestra under Jerzy
Maksymak, with Dmitri
Alexeev, piano); Ten poems
on Texts by Revolutionary
Poets (Moscow and
Novosibirsk Chamber
Choirs; Vessna Children's
Choral School under

5.00 Liu Zuan (Spring: Moonlight and Flowers over the River; Hindimith (Kleine Kammermusik, Op 24 No 1) (7)

5.00 Edith Vogel Plays Brahms (Seven Fantasies, Op 116) (7)

5.30 Mainly for Pleasure: Recordings by Britain's provincial orchestras are rediscovered by Lyndon Jenkins (7)

7.00 News

7.05 Third Ear: William Trevor discuss his work with Hermione Lee, including his latest collection of short stories, *Family Sins*

7.30 Tokyo String Quartet Plays

- chairman of the Commons
- Select Committee on Education
- 10 News; Medicine Now
- Morning Story: Pink May, by Elizabeth Bowen
- 15 Daily Service (s)
- 20 News; Citizens
- 25 From Our Own Correspondent
- 30 Twenty-Something . . . Stephanie Calman meets three people in their twenties who lead very different lives. Part 3: Artist, musician and fashion designer Mark Wardell
- 0 News; You and Yours
- Span Carry On Up the Fiddle: Part 7: Happy Wanderers.

Smiley's People (new series): Seven-part dramatization of John Le Carré's novel. With Bernard Hepton, John Bennett and John Cusley (s) (see Choice)

News 7.00 *The Archers* File on 4: Eric Robson examines whether Britain's National Parks can survive growing pressure from visitors and developers

Science Now (r)

Famous for 15 Minutes: Jenni Mitts meets Terry Brooks, the first Milky Bar Kid in the 1980s (r)

In Touch: This week, the magazine for the blind

the Circus is or (d) r, in counter-intelli- there is any difference in a postman and a Smiley's People passes possibly (b) without trouble, but I wouldn't



CHY

● BUSINESS & FINANCE 21-28
● LAW 30-31
● SPORT 36-42

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

THE POUND

US dollar
1.6960 (+0.0055)

W German mark
2.8306 (+0.0027)

Exchange index
89.4 (same)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1810.6 (-20.1)

FT-SE 100
2286.9 (-25.7)

USM (Datastream)
155.73 (-0.43)

Market report, page 25

Dividend passed

HunterPrint, the printing group, has passed its final dividend after plunging from a pre-tax profit of £6.45 million to a £2.19 million loss in the year to last October.

It has also charged an extraordinary £9 million "to take all losses on the chin," Mr Michael Hunter, the chief executive, said.

The shares fell 5p to 105p.

Tempos, page 22

Fimbra ordered

Fimbra has ordered AM Global Financial Services to cease investment business.

The Croydon firm, which became Fimbra member in 1988, was permitted to handle client money and to manage portfolios of unit trusts.

BT sells MTV

British Telecom is to sell its minority interest in the MTV Europe partnership to MTV Networks.

MTV Europe is a joint venture between MTV, British Telecom and Mr Robert Maxwell.

STOCK MARKETS

New York:	Dow Jones	2831.08 (-17.12)
Nikkei Average	Closed	
Hong Kong:	Hong Kong	2894.66 (+0.78)
Amsterdam:	CBS Tendency	108.5 (-1.9)
Sydney:	AO	1823.5 (-7.1)
Frankfurt:	DAX	1860.39 (-25.50)
Brussels:	General	6019.81 (-84.01)
Paris:	CAC	518.20 (-4.19)
Zurich:	SCA Gen	611.9 (-3.2)
London:	FT-All-Share	1145.19 (-11.54)
	FT-30	1810.6 (-20.1)
	FT-100	2286.9 (-25.7)
	FT-Fixed Interest	81.34 (-0.01)
	FT-Govt Secs	80.89 (-0.26)

Closing prices Page 24
Recent issues Page 26

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISER:		
NU-Swift	515p (+17p)	
Sketchley	381p (+18p)	
Fossilhug	537p (+35p)	
Micro Focus	537p (+35p)	
BHH Group	124p (+27p)	
FALLS:		
Wellcome	681p (-11p)	
Park City	77p (-15p)	
Radient Metal	157p (-10p)	
FAI	80p (-14p)	
Priest Mariani	155p (-28p)	
Reas	957p (-12p)	
Davies & Met 'A'	262p (-15p)	
Shell	472p (-10p)	
Ryl Bank of Scot	167p (-11p)	
Body Shop	55p (-10p)	
Radient Group	239p (-10p)	
Pearson	726p (-17p)	
Barclays	554p (-10p)	
Lloyds	278p (-10p)	
Union Discount	576p (-12p)	
Closing prices	24652	
SEAG Volume	338.5m	

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base:	15%
3-month interbank:	15 1/4-15 1/2%
3-month eligible bills:	14 1/4-14 1/2%
US Prime Rate:	10%
3-month Treasury:	7.70-7.88%
30-year bonds:	10 1/4-10 1/2%

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£/\$:	\$1.6960
£/DM:	DM1.6700
£/Sfr:	Sfr1.4980
£/FF:	FF5.8815
£/Yen:	Yen144.20
£/Lira:	Lira136.9
£/ECU:	ECU 0.721597
£/SDR:	SDR 1.272965

GOLD

London Fixing:	AM \$415.25 pm \$418.85
Close:	\$415.00-419.50 (\$247.00-247.50)
New York:	Comex \$418.10-418.60

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Apr):	\$19.20 bbl
Denotes latest trading price	

TOURIST RATES

	Bank	Bank
	£/Sfr	£/Sfr
Australia	2.35	2.77
Austria	13.76	16.25
Belgium	62.30	68.40
Canada	2.11	2.80
Denmark	7.46	8.46
France	10.36	11.36
Germany	16.55	18.55
Greece	206.50	224.50
Hong Kong	1.124	1.054
India	22.85	20.75
Italy	2.31	2.53
Japan	11.43	12.77
Netherlands	11.43	12.77
Norway	11.43	12.77
Portugal	202.25	224.50
South Africa	4.70	5.20
Spain	16.55	18.55
Sweden	2.35	2.77
Switzerland	1.49	1.67
Turkey	1.78	1.98
USA	1.69	1.89
Yugoslavia	ref	ref

Rate for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclay's Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.

Retail Price Index: 118.8 (December)

Industrial power bills 'will fall in real terms'

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

Many industrial and commercial electricity users should see some decline in prices in real terms after privatisation of the electricity industry while domestic users probably face "a small increase" over and above inflation in the first year. Domestic rises will be "capped" for the two following years so they will not exceed any increase in inflation.

Rises affecting intensive users, such as the paper and board, cement, steel, chemicals and glass industries, will also be capped for a year to give them breathing space to negotiate new contracts.

The Department of Energy expects the overall effect for all users will be that average electricity prices will not rise more

than the rate of inflation. Mr John Wakeham, the Energy Secretary, broke the news as he laid before the House of Commons draft operational licences for National Power and PowerGen, the two generating bodies being created out of the Central Electricity Generating Board and the 12 area boards which will be the main sellers of electricity.

The Confederation of British Industry (CBI) said the one-year capping for intensive users was not long enough. At least two years was needed. It added: "The essential issue is whether large and intensive UK users will have internationally competitive electricity prices." UK bulk users appeared to have among the highest prices in Europe and "any

deterioration in that position would be unacceptable."

Vesting Day for the industry is March 31 next year. The two generators will be taken to market by spring, 1991, although no decision has been made whether to float them together. The area boards will also be privatized.

As the likelihood grew of a heightening row over domestic consumers having to foot higher bills, Mr Wakeham also disclosed the rate of the nuclear levy, to be imposed on the privatized industry to help offset nuclear costs as nuclear power remains in the public sector. It is not an additional cost, given current price structures, but reduces the chances of bringing down electricity costs. It will be 10.6 per

cent initially although Mr Wakeham expects it to decline over the next eight years as nuclear power sourcing becomes more efficient. This is marginally above the level which had been expected. The Treasury had favoured a rate nearer 12 per cent while the area boards, which will be passing on the levy to consumers, had pushed for nearer 8 per cent.

Their fear is that at more than 10 per cent it could be an incentive to industrial users to buy one of the new generation small gas turbines to generate their own power. Users producing power for their own consumption escape the levy.

Mr Wakeham said: "I have no reason to believe that the average price of electricity will rise in real terms. For many industrial

and commercial customers I anticipate there will be a reduction in the price of electricity in real terms. For domestic customers it will vary from area to area as at present but I suspect there will be a small increase in the first year after which there will be capping for the following two years."

Large users of electricity had traditionally paid less than the full cost of their supplies but now the market would average this out, said Mr Wakeham.

Up to 200 companies are estimated to be intensive users and there has been speculation that they could face increases in power bills of between 20 and 40 per cent. Some have plans for building their own power stations.

Drexel crisis after slide in junk market

By James Bone and Neil Bennett

Drexel Burnham Lambert, the US investment house that virtually created the huge junk bond market of the 1980s, is looking for a new merger partner investor after suffering from the slump in the market.

Drexel replied to Wall Street reports about its liquidity problems with a terse statement which said: "The unsettled markets, particularly in the high yield area, have adversely affected the liquidity of our parent corporation, Drexel Burnham Lambert Group."

The Drexel junk bond operation, based in Beverly Hills, has been having an increasingly tough time, under pressure from unhappy investors on one side and corporate clients unable to complete their deals on the other.

Recently, Drexel has had to admit to problems in raising relatively modest junk bond issues, after failing to convince investors to back the deals.

Many of Drexel's earlier issues have the backing of "buy-back" guarantees, and the firm is believed to have taken vast quantities of bonds on to its own books. It is to finance these holdings, many of which are probably intrinsically sound, that Drexel needs capital.

There was considerable speculation about the amount of capital it needs to lift the business clear of problems.

But Drexel insists that the securities subsidiary "continues to have good liquidity and has satisfactory excess regulatory capital." The statement added: "We are taking appropriate action to maximize liquidity."

The firm said negotiations had already begun with one or several prospective investors. It refused to specify what sparked its liquidity crisis or whether it would sever its link with Groupe Bruxelles Lambert, its 37 per cent shareholder, in the refinancing.

Dealers treated Drexel's admission of liquidity problems with amazement. "It's like admitting you have cancer,"

Stock market

25 said one: "No one will dare do business with them now."

Drexel rose from being a third-tier player on Wall Street to a leading investment powerhouse on the back of the lucrative junk bond activities of Mr Michael Milken, who left the firm, was also indicated.

In an effort to recover from the case, Drexel last year undertook the most drastic restructuring on Wall Street, selling off its retail brokerage

business, pulling out of the municipal bond and foreign stock businesses and disbanding a financial institution's group. The changes almost halved Drexel's staff to about 5,400.

Speculation about its financial position continued to sweep the markets because of its exposure to the troubled junk bond market, prompting the firm to take the unusual step of disclosing a \$40 million loss for 1989, compared with after-tax profits of more than \$500 million in 1986.

The company said the loss included a markdown of the value of its junk bond inventory.

The Wall Street bond market is in severe depression. Many high yield issues are now almost illiquid, and institutions have found themselves landed with billions in untradeable securities. Two weeks ago, Shearson Lehman Hutton cancelled a \$20 million share issue. Large numbers of previously highly-paid bond traders are now looking for work.

Confirmation of Drexel's search for capital coincided with a sharp fall in prices of high yield issues. RJR Nabisco Holdings and other high-yield junk bonds continued Friday's sharp retreat on confirmation that Nabisco has postponed a \$1.25 billion debt issue.

A Nabisco spokesman said: "The issue is postponed due to market conditions."

Four face first Guinness trial



After two years' preparation, the first of two Guinness trials started yesterday in the canteen at Southwark Crown Court, London. The case is expected to run until the end of July. The four defendants, Mr Ernest Saunders, the former chairman and chief executive of Guinness, who was accompanied by his son James, (above) along with the former stockbroker Mr Anthony Farnes, (left), Mr Gerald Ronson, head of Heron Corp (top), and Sir Jack Lyons, the financier and arts patron, face charges of theft, false accounting and conspiracy. Full report, page 2.

Retail sales show spending strength

By Colin Narkhough, Economics Correspondent

Fresh doubts have surfaced about the strength of consumer spending and the extent to which manufacturers are squeezing profit margins in response to higher interest rates.

The uncertainty, triggered by the latest figures on retail sales and producer prices, again raised the question whether a 15 per cent base rate is curbing the consumer and companies sufficiently.

The official data coincided with a Confederation of British Industry survey that suggested stronger-than-expected retail sales last month, but did not see the pick-up continuing.

Though provisional Government figures showed retail sales falling a seasonally-adjusted 1.3 per cent last month, reversing most of December's huge 1.9 per cent surge, it left

Sketchley rejects £137m Davis bid

By Michael Tate

Sketchley, the dry cleaning to vending machines group, was attempting to fight off a £137.6 million takeover bid in the face of a slump in profits.

The bid came from Godfrey Davis, the Sunlight laundry services to motor leasing group. It has claimed the support of Sketchley's biggest shareholder, Mercury Asset Management, with 17.1 per cent.

The bid was rejected by Mr Malcolm Glenn, the Sketchley chairman, even though he went on to warn that profits for the year to March 1990 would be "substantially below market expectations."

Sketchley's own broker, Hoare Govett, had forecast £14.8 million, against £17.3 million last time.

Terms of the offer are five Godfrey Davis shares and

350p in cash for every three Sketchley shares, valuing each Sketchley share at 380p when the bid was launched. Mr John Ivey, Godfrey Davis chief executive, said shareholders can keep their 25 per cent dry cleaning discount perk.

However, Davis shares dipped 9p to 149p trimming the value to 365p. Meanwhile, Mr Glenn was insisting that the terms did not take full account of the value of the Sketchley brand name, and other strengths. Sketchley shares closed 18p higher at 382p, after touching 388p.

Godfrey Davis estimates that its own profits rose by 26 per cent in the year ended last December, to £21.5 million, and that earnings per share grew by 10 per cent. Mr Ivey forecasts a 12 per cent rise in the total dividend to 7.85p.

Company alleges 'serious breaches' of service contract

BLP dismisses chairman over deals

By Melinda Wittstock

BLP Group, the USM real wood and veneer laminates maker, has dismissed its chairman without compensation following allegations of "serious breaches" of his service contract "over investments in two customer companies believed to be on the brink of receivership."

Mr John Goodman, whose dismissal became effective on Sunday, was asked to leave a month ago after it emerged he had taken controlling stakes in Raven Furniture, a wooden doors manufacturer, in 1988, and Old Halls, an all-wood kitchen manufacturer and distributor, in 1989, without company permission.

BLP entered talks to buy the two loss-making companies, which owe BLP £150,000 as a result of loans granted by Mr Goodman, but decided against it when the seriousness of their financial problems became clear, said Mr Ian

Cohen, BLP chief executive. BLP also gave warning of a profits downturn for the year to end-December yesterday. Its shares fell 15p to 34p. Mr Cohen said BLP does not expect the £150,000 debt to be repaid and will make full provision for the amount with the preliminary results, to be announced in April. "The danger of receivership at both companies is very real," he said.

Mr Cohen insisted there was no evidence of fraud or price-fixing by Mr Goodman. "There's nothing sinister about it, it just reflects bad judgement on the part of the former chairman. He should have told us and gotten written permission from us before he invested. It's a matter of conflict of interest."

"If the investments had worked out okay, then maybe it wouldn't have mattered. But it would reflect badly on BLP if the companies the chairman had taken controlling interests in went into

receivership," said Mr Cohen, whose brother Malcolm, the BLP finance director, takes over as chairman until Mr Goodman's replacement can be found. Mr Goodman, who owns 1.1 million shares in BLP (about 3 per cent), will not be permitted to sell his shares before the results are announced, said Samuel Montagu, the company's advisor.

BLP said trading conditions deteriorated further in the second half of 1989. While BLP is trading profitably, profits are expected to be much lower than anticipated earlier in the year.

BLP, which reported pre-tax profits of £1.9 million in 1988 followed by interim pre-tax profits for the six months to end-June of £1.7 million, is expected to report profits of £2.2 million pre-tax, Layreney Frust, its broker, has forecast. It is also to reduce its final dividend payout from the 2.35p paid last year. An interim 1.5p has already been paid.

THE WORLD HAS JUST VOTED FOR A NEW LEADER.

The USA, United Kingdom, Germany, Italy, Spain, Poland, Hungary, Yugoslavia and Japan have chosen.

They voted the Dell System 325 'Best 80286/80386 Personal Computer' in the prestigious 'CHIP' magazine awards in Germany.

The judges, from nine leading computer publications throughout the world, placed the Dell System 325 head and shoulders above everyone else. All the big names such as IBM, Compaq and Olivetti didn't even come close.

So Dell couldn't have wished for a greater vote of confidence. To find out why Dell is a world-beater, call us on 0800-414535.

Name _____ Position _____

Company _____

Address _____ (Tick here if a VAX)

Postcode _____ Telephone _____ T114

Dell Computer Corp., Freepost (RG14)2, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 1BR.

WE TAKE FULL RESPONSIBILITY.

SIEMENS

Information for Siemens shareholders

Streamlined organisation off to a good start

The reorganised Siemens made a good start in the first quarter of the current financial year (1st October to 31st December 1989). New orders and sales again topped those of the preceding

year's first quarter, which in some sectors were very high indeed. Capital expenditure and investment increased vigorously. Operating results rose 21%.

New orders

Siemens, comprising Siemens AG and its consolidated companies in Federal Germany and other countries, saw new orders increase by 10% to £6,437m (in the financial year 1988/89 it was £5,868m). Fifty-eight percent (1988/89: 56%) of this total was accounted for by international business, which rose 13% to £3,711m (1988/89: £3,275m). A quarter of this growth was due to the initial consolidation of newly acquired companies, e.g. Rolm Systems (U.S.A.) and IN2 S.A.

(France). Growth was weaker in the German home market, rising 5% to £2,726m. This slowdown was mainly attributable to a large inflow of orders during the same period of the previous year.

In £m	1/10/88 to 31/12/88	1/10/89 to 31/12/89	Change
New orders	5,868	6,437	+10%
German business	2,593	2,726	+5%
International business	3,275	3,711	+13%

Sales

Sales increased 20% to £5,427m (1988/89: £4,513m). German domestic sales in particular expanded, increasing 29% to £2,567m (1988/89: £1,983m). This reflects the surge in orders received in the past year as well as the completion of major projects. In contrast, international sales progressed at an even rate, increasing 13% to £2,860m (1988/89: £2,530m).

Approximately one-third of this growth is attributable to the inclusion of sales of acquired companies.

In £m	1/10/88 to 31/12/88	1/10/89 to 31/12/89	Change
Sales	4,513	5,427	+20%
German business	1,983	2,567	+29%
International business	2,530	2,860	+13%

Employees

Siemens' worldwide workforce rose 2% to 373,000. Although the number of people employed in the Company's German operations remained practically unchanged, its international workforce increased by 5% to 145,000, largely as a result of new acquisitions. Employment costs rose to £2,371m (1988/89: £2,191m).

In thousands	30/9/89	31/12/89	Change
Employees	365	373	+2%
German operations	227	228	0%
International operations	138	145	+5%

In £m	1/10/88 to 31/12/88	1/10/89 to 31/12/89	Change
Employment costs	2,191	2,371	+8%

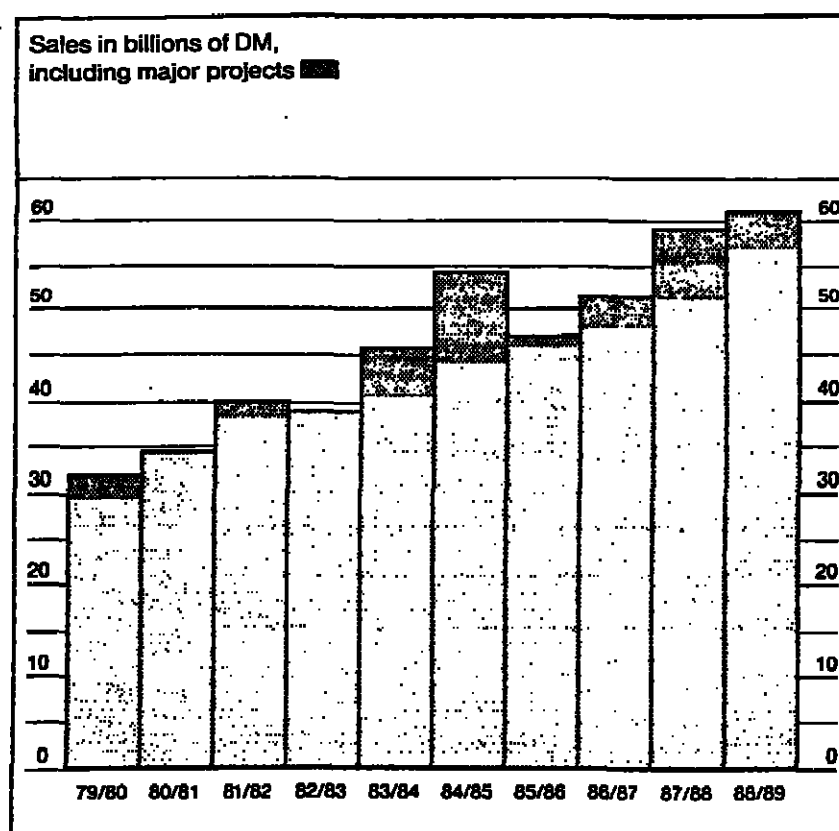
Capital spending and net income

Capital expenditure and investment increased to £745m (1988/89: £272m). Approximately £300m (1988/89: £230m) of this amount was capital expenditure on fixed assets. The largest proportion of its investment was used to pay for the outstanding amounts involved in the purchase of The Plessey Company plc, Ilford, which Siemens jointly acquired with Britain's GEC.

In line with sales growth, net income after taxes rose 21% during the first quarter to £134m (1988/89: £111m).

In £m	1/10/88 to 31/12/88	1/10/89 to 31/12/89	Change
Capital expenditure and investment	272	745	+47%
Net income after taxes	111	134	+21%

All amounts translated at Frankfurt middle rate on 29/12/1989: £1 = DM 2.721.



Confidence for the 90's!

The 80's was a successful decade for Siemens: Worldwide sales doubled and earnings improved substantially. In the past ten years the Company invested more than DM43 billion in Germany and abroad and spent over DM46 billion on research and development. The workforce grew by more than 40,000. In the U.S., Siemens has built up an organisation of more than 30,000 employees and a business volume of DM7 billion. As a result of the mega-chip project, Siemens has become a world leader in microelectronics. With automotive systems, the Company entered a new field in which it is now active on a global scale. These developments and the acquisitions and new alliances made in recent years, as well as a restructured organisation completed in 1989, will provide a sound basis for continued success in the 90's.

Siemens AG

In Great Britain: Siemens plc.
Siemens House, Windmill Road,
Sunbury-on-Thames, Middlesex, TW16 7HS

TEMPUS

Questions remain as Dalgety gets back to business as usual

Maurice Warren is a man who deserves breathing space. It is less than four months since he took over as chief executive of Dalgety, the petfood-to-pig breeding group.

Already, he has supervised the long-awaited disposal of the commodities business Gill & Duffus and embarked on a strategic review, the findings of which are likely to ensure that commodities are not the last business on which Dalgety calls time.

Yesterday's interim figures reinforced the impression that it is business as usual again, after the drama of last year's departure of his predecessor, Mr Terry Pryce.

At £57.1 million, pre-tax profits for the six months to December were a million or so above what the market was looking for and 10.4 per cent ahead of last time. Gearing is also heading the right way — down from 70 per cent to 41 per cent.

The one slight worry is that before the reduced interest charge is taken into effect trading profits had actually fallen, if only by £200,000, to £77.7 million.

But that is exactly what Mr Warren's strategic review will address, as the 10 per cent hike in the interim dividend suggests. For just as a feed compounder adjusts the mix to keep his margins high, Mr Newman has to adjust Dalgety's business mix.

The stock market will want large restructuring. It wants to know if Dalgety will hang on to Dalgety Farm, the 65 per cent-owned Australian subsidiary. It wants to know if there is still growth in Martin Brower, its US subsidiary. And is continental Europe Dalgety's chosen area of expansion?

Mr Warren has undertaken to answer these and other queries in deed, if not word. He appears to have the time. Mr Robert Holmes à Court and his partner Elf Aquitaine, have now taken their stake below 5 per cent.

Sadly for shareholders it has also taken the heat out of the share price. Analysts are looking for about £120 million for



Confident: Mr Gordon Black, joint chairman of Peter Black

the full year with earnings per share of about 36p. That puts the company on a prospective p/e of 10.5, in line with the sector average. That is the way it should stay until Mr Warren comes up with some answers.

Peter Black

Peter Black can be thought of as a mixture of Sears, Coloroll and Body Shop. Half its business is shoes, with the balance split between home furnishings and toiletries. Taken in isolation, Black's first-half performance might look uninspiring. By comparison with results from others in the sector, Black has been doing well.

Sales were a touch down at £73.5 million in the six months to the beginning of December, although pre-tax profits edged 5 per cent ahead to £3.54 million. Black is proud that operating margins widened from 6.8 to 7.1 per cent, reflecting investment in efficiency-improving plants, and action to cut overheads.

Black acknowledges that much of its relative stability comes from its relationship with Marks and Spencer, which accounts for 60 per cent of its output. Fifteen years ago the company supplied only

slippers and bags, but Black has followed Marks into furnishing and, most recently, cosmetics and toiletries.

Most of Black's cosmetics and toiletries business has been built up from scratch, though in October it splashed out £12.8 million — equivalent to 15 times its earnings — on herbal remedies.

While that purchase had little impact on the half-year figures, the growth of original subsidiaries in this division offset setbacks in other divisions.

Earnings per share were only 4 per cent up at 6.92p in the six months, considerably below the annual growth of 15 per cent averaged in the previous five years. However, the interim dividend is to go up by no less than 18 per cent to 0.77p. This reflects Black's confidence and the belief that tax reform has made dividends more attractive.

Analysts have shaded down expectations for the full year, but profits of £10.5 million and earnings of 12.5p would still leave the shares at 121p on a prospective p/e ratio of less than 10. That is inexpensive, though disasters elsewhere in the sector may hold the rating back.

HunterPrint faces long haul

HunterPrint Group, which in its time has printed enough gloom about other firms' misfortunes, now has its own dose of poor financial medicine.

The group has sunk into a pre-tax loss of £2.19 million for the year ended October 1 against a pre-tax profit of £6.45 million. It has passed its final dividend, leaving only the 3p interim already paid against 10p for 1988.

The upturn in business conditions, further compounded by start-up problems, and ruins 23 years of uninterrupted growth.

Financial prospects depend heavily on getting the magazine and catalogue divisions

back to profit swiftly. The balance sheet sees shareholders' funds down from £31.5 million to £20.5 million, and with net debt at £23 million the group ended its year with gearing at 112 per cent.

Last month's sale of its financial printing division should mean a net injection of between £2.4 million and £2.8 million — though payment will be spread over two years — and while HunterPrint has laid down the new technology for the 1990s so it can give the European competition a run for its money, relief on the high interest rate front is needed before financial smiles break out again.

The Hunter family holds a 23 per cent stake and Gresham Trust a further 13 per cent. There are no competitive printing company holdings, though if HunterPrint is seen to be down and struggling, some opportunistic buying may yet be seen.

Meanwhile, it looks like a slow haul back to profits, so dividend restoration must be some way off. Yesterday the shares fell from 110p to 102p.

Until there is evidence that HunterPrint is firmly back in the black, and until the last is given that dividend cheques are back in the post, the shares are a gamble.

Stratagem boosted in Colonnade offer

By Jeremy Andrews

Shares in Colonnade Development Capital, an investment trust managed by British & Commonwealth, fell 15p to 165p on the news that certain institutional holders intend to accept the 165p cash offer from Stratagem, a quoted investment company.

These institutions also sold Stratagem enough shares to give it a 25 per cent blocking stake in Colonnade.

Last Friday, Mr Bernard Kerrison, Stratagem's chairman, was reported as saying that Colonnade's counter-proposal "will not shake the support of the institutions who have indicated their intention to accept" the £8.2 million offer from Stratagem.

CBI review of financial services

By Our City Staff

A new barometer of the health of financial services is to be launched this month by the Confederation of British Industry.

It has joined accountants and management consultants Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte to plot such variables as level of business, outlook for the industry, trends in costs and profitability and employment.

Firms to be surveyed include banks, finance houses, building societies, insurance companies, pension funds, unit trusts and stockbrokers.

The CBI already conducts authoritative reviews of manufacturing industry and the distributive trades.

Dr Andrew Sentance, CBI director of economic affairs, said: "There is at present little reliable information on current trends in financial services in spite of the fact that financial institutions make a major contribution to the UK economy by generating overseas earnings and employment opportunities."

"Initially we hope to survey about 500 companies, but it is our intention to build on this sound foundation as the survey develops."

Results of the first survey, to be published quarterly, will be released on February 22.

Shares fall

Stanley Miller, the Tyneside construction company, has learned that its largest shareholder, the North East Investment Trust with 29.9 per cent, will be selling its holding after year-end results are announced in April.

North East Investment is controlled by two Stanley Miller directors, and news of the planned sale sent the shares down 20p to 114p.

Quadrant will miss profit expectations

By Melinda Wittstock

Quadrant Group, the acquisitive photographic and video company, has given warning that profits for the year to end-February will fall short of earlier expectations.

Mr Jeremy Peace, the former stockbroker who is chairman of Quadrant, said pre-tax profits, however, will not be less than £5 million, an increase of about 13 per cent on last year's £4.4 million.

He said sales at Quadrant, which supplies estate agents with photographs and distributes photographic products to retailers, had been hit by the downturn in consumer spending.

"There has been a general decline in sales across the group," said Mr Peace. But he said the board is taking action

to "substantially reduce" its cost base in order to improve operating profitability in the coming financial year.

Mr Peace said that total cost-cutting would amount to more than £1 million.

This will involve redundancies in the processing and video equipment sales divisions.

Total proceeds from the disposal of the cellular communications business, which made no contribution to second-half profits, will push total cash balances at Quadrant up to £25 million net.

Mr Peace said Quadrant would use the money to make acquisitions, as well as to take advantage of "strategic opportunities for organic growth."

Quadrant shares fell 17p to 128p.

For
sig

Up to 3
jobs cut
Grand

Howard dro

\$2m job for B

Former c
takes over

Cloak and
dagger by
the count

Russian words
The Soviet refugees from the
Soviet Union have been
in the UK for some time
and have been working
in the stock exchange
and in the bank of England
and in the venture
capital industry. They were
in a presentation by

هكذا من الأصل

Former Marriott men set sights on Hilton Hotels

From James Bone, New York

Mr Alfred Checchi, the former Marriott hotel official who led last year's \$3.65 billion buyout of NWA Inc, the parent of Northwest Airlines, has emerged as a contender for Hilton Hotels Corp.

Mr Checchi and two other former Marriott officials, Mr Gary Wilson and Mr Frederic Malek, are reported to be seeking financing to make an all-cash offer for the hotel and casino concern. Mr Malek was also involved in the NWA deal.

The former Marriott officials apparently believe their experience could help them in running Hilton — possibly by selling off hotels and contracting to manage them instead as Marriott has done over the last decade.

A combined effort with Japan Air Lines or another Japanese concern interested in certain Hilton assets is also possible.

JAL has expressed interest in buying and managing the Hilton Hawaiian Village, valued at around \$1 billion.

Hilton Hotels put itself up for sale last summer after the settlement of a dispute over the estate of its founder, Mr Conrad Hilton.

At the time, analysts estimated the 48 million shares of Hilton common stock might fetch up to \$130 a share, and the company said it had received expressions of interest from around the world, especially from Asia.

But the takeover climate has since soured, particularly for deals involving real estate, because of the softening of property prices.

Offers for Hilton came in far lower than expected, reportedly in the \$90-a-share range, with Japanese buyers apparently making no bids despite earlier interest in "trophy" properties such as the Hilton's Waldorf Astoria on Manhattan's Park Avenue.

After a two-day meeting last week, the Hilton board decided to ignore existing buyout offers while it attempted to negotiate a better deal or come up with a restructuring plan.

Among the bids now on the table is believed to be a cash and securities offer by JMB Realty Corp, based in Chicago, and another proposal by Miller-Kutznick-Davis-Gray, based in Denver, the real estate investment vehicle of the Los Angeles investor Mr Marvin Davis.

At least one other company is also believed to have made an offer. The proposals are reported to be close to \$80 a share.

Queens Moat Houses, which recently launched a near £200 million bid for Norfolk Capital, another hotels group, yesterday paid £13.3 million for two hotels in West Germany, announced that it was building one in Düsseldorf and said a deal was close on building a fourth in Lübeck. But the news knocked 1p off the Queens Moat share price, reducing slightly the value of its two-for-five share offer for Norfolk.

The hotels purchased — the Ambassadors in München-Gladbach and Ingolstadt — have a total of 250 bedrooms. Queens says they are both in commercial areas and fit in well with company sites in West Germany.

Queens now claims to be the largest British-based operator and owner of hotels in continental Europe. The hotel in Düsseldorf will cost £12 million and have 167 bedrooms with banqueting and conference centres.

Queens Moat Houses in W German expansion

Up to 300 jobs cut at GrandMet

Up to 300 jobs are to go at Grand Metropolitan following a restructuring of the group's retailing operations. Seventy further sites, mainly small hotels and Berni Inns, are also being put up for sale.

GrandMet is forming a pub company, which will look after its Chief & Brewer, Clifton Inns and Berni Inns, and a separate high street restaurant division, which will be responsible for the Old Orleans, Pastificio, Pizzalano and Perfect Pizza operations.

The move means a significant saving in the central services and cost structure, the company said.

Howard drops

Howard Holdings, a property developer, has suffered a near 25 per cent fall in pre-tax profits to £1.21 million in the six months to end-October. Turnover dropped by £414,000 to £5.03 million. The interim dividend stays at 0.6p on earnings per share of 3.1p (4.2p).

\$2m job for BT

Tymnet, British Telecom's newly-acquired subsidiary, has won a \$2 million contract to supply a private packet-switched data network for the Saudi French Bank.

Dalgety rises to £57.1m

ALAN WELLER

By Matthew Bond



Strategic review of the business: Maurice Warren yesterday

Dalgety, the crisps to pot noodle group, has revealed a 10.4 per cent increase in pre-tax profits. In the six months to December the group made a pre-tax profit of £57.1 million.

Mr Maurice Warren, who took over as chief executive last October, said the group had embarked on a strategic review of its businesses aimed at lifting the company's earnings into the top quartile of the food sector.

That process began last year with the £87 million sale of the commodities business Gill & Duffus. But as Mr Warren indicated: "We're still looking hard at the group to see whether there are any divisions that could be strengthened by acquisition or whether there are more divestments that can be made."

Mr Warren admitted that the outlook for Dalgety's Australian subsidiary Dalgety Farmers was not promising, but it was too early to say whether the 65 per cent-owned subsidiary might form part of a disposal programme.

Trading profits fell fractionally to £77.7 million, before the reduced interest charge due to the Gill & Duffus sale helped lift profits at the pre-tax level. The interim dividend followed the pre-tax trend with a 10 per cent increase to 7.15p (6.5p).

Staffing levels were cut 20 per cent, which cost about \$100,000 in redundancy. Turnover dropped to \$11.6 million from \$15.1 million.

Earnings per share of 13 cents have turned into a loss per share of 5 cents, and again there is no interim dividend.

Slowdown in computers hits Orchid

By Our City Staff

Orchid Technology has suffered from a continued slowdown in the computer industry and turned in a loss of \$444,000 at the interim stage to December, compared with pre-tax profits of \$1.1 million.

The California microcomputer firm decided to cease making a number of products in order to reduce costs in response to \$4.9 losses in the second half of last year.

Staffing levels were cut 20 per cent, which cost about \$100,000 in redundancy. Turnover dropped to \$11.6 million from \$15.1 million.

Earnings per share of 13 cents have turned into a loss per share of 5 cents, and again there is no interim dividend.

The market warns off Ratner the retailer

COMMENT David Brewerton

The Ratners share price lost 10p on the first day of the account, not a good omen. Half was probably due to the miserable state of the market, where even the release of Nelson Mandela could not raise a bullish sentiment. The other 5p came off because Gerald Ratner even dared think about making a counter-offer for Dixons Group, the original Kingfisher bid for which is now in a state of suspended animation while the Monopolies Commission conducts an investigation.

Ratner has taken to thinking of himself (and, it must be said, his entire team) as a retailer rather than a jeweller, but it is clear from the share price reaction that his global view is not shared by the investment community. By and large, Ratners has done well by the City and the City has done well by Ratners. The company was backed by investors in the unique (I believe) ploy of launching a second rights issue before the first had closed. The shareholders were rewarded with a strong corporate performance from the acquisitions they financed.

So far, Ratner has barely put a foot

wrong. The original purchase of H Samuel business worked like a dream while the United States acquisitions have proved that the group can manage businesses in new geographical areas. But a move into mass-retailing electronic consumer products would be thought a bridge too far for Ratner, and it is hardly surprising that the backing simply was not there. In any case, a bid for Dixons at Stanley Kalms' asking price of 160p a share did not add up to anything but earnings dilution for Ratners, so it was a non-runner on those grounds too.

Ratners needs no backing to continue to build on its 30 per cent share of the British market. Acquisitions in jewellery are out of the question on monopoly grounds, so the growth has to be organic, which should be fundable from cash flow. But that does not mean that Ratners has to look for new areas of British retailing into which to expand. A far better avenue for growth lies in the United States, where there are still enough mom and pop jewellery stores to keep the group amused for years.

Gilts in German bondage

The devastation of the German government bond market continued yesterday with another fall of about a point in 10-year bonds. German reunification may be good for Chancellor Kohl's re-election prospects but in the short term it is making holders of German bonds feel horribly off-colour.

Gilts cannot expect to be immune to the events which are undermining the price of bonds (the German title for bonds) — nor have they been. Yesterday, prices in the UK fixed interest market drifted off another half a point, extending the weakness seen last week. The same has been true to a greater or lesser extent in France, the Netherlands and other European bond markets: all have fallen, though less than in Germany.

The spectre which is stalking the markets is German monetary union, and the effect which it may have on interest rates. German rates were already, on balance, expected to rise and this had been discounted by markets.

The opening up of the economies of Eastern Europe is seen as likely to give a strong boost to an already rapidly growing German economy, increasing inflationary pressures.

On top of this the prospect of German monetary union, at a much earlier date than expected, has laid a new layer of monetary concern. According to Theo Waigel, the West German finance minister, a fully-fledged proposal will be put to Herr Hans Modrow, the East German prime minister, in Bonn today. Though many on the East German side would prefer a more extended courtship to this shotgun marriage, events are not

in their favour. The rate of emigration from the GDR is at such a level that desperate remedies are required to stem the flow.

Whether German monetary union will in fact be inflationary and what the Bundesbank's reaction will be are still uncertain — and it is that uncertainty as much as anything which is spooking the markets. It is probable that in East Germany as in other East European countries there has been a degree of "forced saving" by consumers unable to find anything in the shops to consume. Nobody knows how big this monetary overhang may be. But the entire East German money supply is only about 15 per cent of West German M3, equating Ostmarks for Deutschmarks on a one-for-one basis. And 5 to 1 looks a more likely conversion rate than 1 to 1.

The difficulties in the Bundesbank's situation were exposed last week when Karl Otto Pöhl, the president, appeared to stand on his head, calling the idea of monetary union fantastic at the beginning of the week and seeming to accept it by the end of the week. Raising interest rates as a pre-emptive move will be even more difficult politically than at other times in the context of a matter of such acute national importance.

With or without a rise in interest rates, bonds are beginning to look good value. A real return of about 5 1/2 per cent is attractive for German paper. Unless one believes that Germany's low inflation record is about to falter — a matter of much wider concern than to holders of German bonds — then a recovery seems likely once the outlook is clearer.

Former chief of Glaxo takes over at Medeva

By Our City Staff

Mr Bernard Taylor, former chief executive of Glaxo, Britain's biggest pharmaceutical company, will today become executive chairman of Medeva, the fast-growing drugs company formerly known as Medivac.

Mr Taylor, aged 55, resigned from Glaxo last May after three years as chief executive and 27 years' service, when the company gave him his job to Mr Ernest Mario, who had

been in charge of Glaxo's US operations.

Mr Taylor will accept the chairmanship today and unveil his plans for the group, the product of a £57.9 million merger between Medivac, the former Third Market-quoted company, and Evans Healthcare, a £27 million management buyout from Glaxo.

Shares in Medeva, which joined the full list last month, were up 2p to 95p.

Peter Black edges up to half-year £5.25m

By Jeremy Andrews

Peter Black, which supplies footwear, home furnishings and toiletries to Marks and Spencer and other leading stores, has raised its interim dividend by 18 per cent to 0.77p, although pre-tax profits rose only 4 per cent to £5.25 million in the six months to December 2 and earnings per share rose only 4 per cent to 6.92p. Sales actually fell by £275,000 to £73.5 million in the period as an upturn in

cosmetics and toiletries was not enough to offset completely setbacks in footwear and homeware and furniture.

Destocking by customers caused lower sales of imported footwear, and sales of home furnishings and furniture reflected high interest rates.

Continued capital investment enabled the cosmetics and toiletries division to achieve strong growth in profits. *Times*, page 22

Cloak and dagger by the count

Stock Group, the private client stockbroker offshoot of John Gurn's British & Commonwealth, which was launched last October and contains the continuing businesses of Hoare Govett, Stock Beech and Campbell Neill, has expanded further by acquiring the private client business of Chase Manhattan Securities. Joining the group as a result is one Count Mark Pejasevich, who has enviable qualifications for his post of investment director in charge of the international department. Formerly head of cross-border sales, Count Pejasevich's first experience of a cross-border deal was when he was smuggled out of Hungary in 1947 while acting as interpreter for the British military after his estates were confiscated by the Communists. He returned to his homeland for the first time in December, and will be paying particular attention, therefore, to Hungary's first democratic elections since the War, in March, and to its gradual embracing of the principles of the free market.

Russian words

The latest refugees from behind what was once the Iron Curtain, a Soviet delegation, have just arrived on these shores to learn the ways of capitalism. Their itinerary includes the Stock Exchange, Lloyd's, the Bank of England and, yesterday, 31, the venture capital outfit. They were treated to a presentation by

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Pearl of a friendship

The abortive offer by Ratners for Dixons would have been the second deal between the two companies, according to Gerald Ratner, the king of the high street jewellers. There has been a certain amount of surprise at the extent of Ratner's generosity towards his old friend Stanley Kalms. But he says the 160p price came after 18 months of informal talks between the two, over many lunches, which finally

the marketing director, Chris Woodward, on the importance of a free market structure to venture capitalism, the incentivizing of managers and the management buyout — in fluent Russian. Chris was part of an experiment in the 1960s whereby schoolchildren were encouraged to learn a difficult language. He kept up his expertise during economic studies when he specialized on the Soviet economy. "I've hardly spoken a word in the intervening 20 years," he admits. "But it did cut down on translation time."

Creative lines

Creative People, due out next month, is one of those slim tomes packed with the blindingly obvious so beloved of management consultants and the world of advertising, from which its author, Winston Fletcher, comes. Fletcher has

Doom and salvation

Sentiment among US investors is now at its most pessimistic since June 1982, just before the start of the 1980s bull market, according to a study that reaches Wall Street investment houses this week. This reflects a sharp reversal from the mood mid-December, when most professionals were optimistic about stock prices. Interest rates in the US are mostly blamed, and investors are now being nervously urged for more bad news, according to Michael Burke, editor of *Investors Intelligence*, New York-based publisher of a weekly survey of investor sentiment. But wait — in a perverse way overwhelming dependency on Wall Street is often good news, just as widespread optimism often accompanies market peaks. Many money managers use figures like this as a backwards indicator for prices. When the number drops to its current level then, they say, stock prices can generally be expected to push upwards. Says David Dreman, founder of the money management firm Dreman Value Management: "When you get under 30 per cent for the bullish side you probably have a rally coming."

set up not one but two advertising agencies, including his current billet, the snappily-titled Delaney, Fletcher, Slaymaker, Delaney & Bozell. The book claims to explore "the subtle, sensitive and often stormy relationships between those who earn their living by selling their talents to organizations and the organizations which employ them," which would seem to include most of us, including the driver of the number 10 bus. The namedropped include Sir Ralph Halpern, with an uncharacteristically bland quote, and David Puttnam — "pretentiousness and preciousness drive me mad," he says. Of most interest is spotting how many of the 13 richest creative talents have seen their personal fortunes plummet of late. Among those featured are Sir Bernard Ashley, Richard Branson, Sir Terence Conran and the Seacht brothers.

● If the Thundering Herd rides to the rescue of Drexel Burnham Lambert, and the former junk bond king now looking for a partner merges with Merrill Lynch, will they be called Lynch and Burnham?

Martin Waller

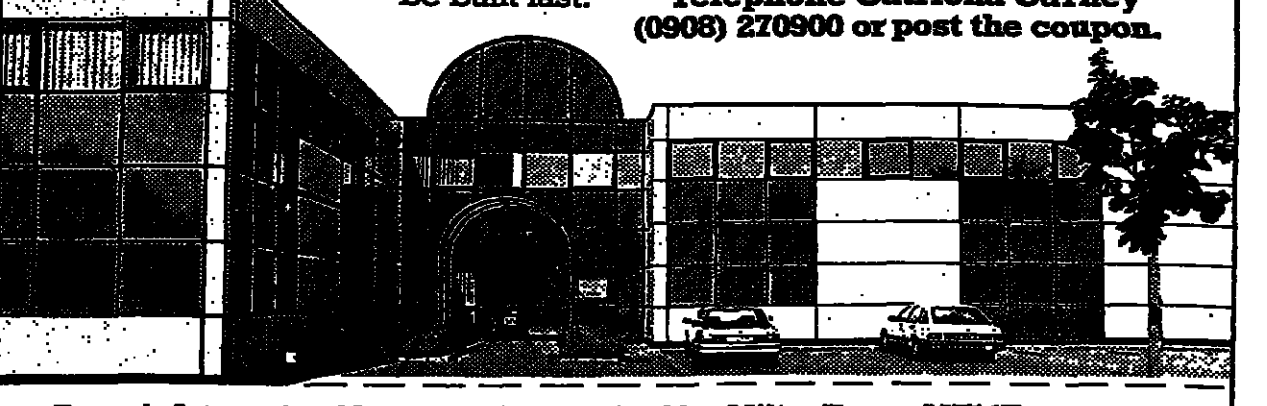


He needn't stop you opening the door of a new building

Don't let high interest rates or inflation delay your building or business expansion plans. Specify a purpose designed pre-engineered structure from Terrapin. Because it will be more cost effective than a traditional building. And will be built fast.

You can also rent it if you wish to conserve capital. The design and build service with a difference — from concept to completion. Single and multi-storey buildings for every conceivable need, to known cost, delivery and performance criteria.

Telephone Catriona Carney (0908) 270900 or post the coupon.



Terrapin International Ltd., Bond Avenue, Blitchley, Milton Keynes MK11 1JJ. Phone: (0908) 270900. Telex: 82468. Fax: (0908) 270052. Please send me full details on Terrapin Buildings for Commerce, Industry and General Community use. For Purchase ☐ For long-term Hire/Lease ☐ (tick box applicable)

Approx. floor area required _____ Name _____ Position _____ Company _____ Address _____ Tel. no. _____ Fax no. _____

Terrapin
A MORE CONSTRUCTIVE WAY TO BUILD

Portfolio PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Randillon (Water)	Transport	
2	CALA	Building Roads	
3	Omney Abroad	Leisure	
4	CH Ind	Industrials A-D	
5	Br Borneo	Oil/Gas	
6	Sater	Industrials S-Z	
7	Greycoat	Property	
8	BSS Group	Industrials A-D	
9	Scotstons	Electricals	
10	Citygrove	Property	
11	Douglas (RM)	Building Roads	
12	PE International	Electricals	
13	Denora	Property	
14	Black	Chemicals/Plas	
15	Hickson	Building Roads	
16	Marlow (John)	Industrials E-K	
17	Indecon	Building Roads	
18	Ward Group	Industrials A-D	
19	Cyc	Industrials S-Z	
20	Trinity Int	Newspapers/Pub	
21	Vision	Industrials A-D	
22	Restall	Chemicals/Plas	
23	Yachair Chem	Chemicals/Plas	
24	Liner	Textiles	
25	NFC	Transport	
26	Vitropast	Building Roads	
27	Russell (A)	Industrials L-R	
28	Waco	Paper/Print/Adv	
29	Lewin (Water)	Building Roads	
30	Allied Lon	Property	
31	Waco	Property	
32	Morrison (W)	Food	
33	Thames TV	Leisure	
34	Richardson West	Industrials L-R	
35	T & S Stores	Drum/Stores	
36	Copson PLC	Building Roads	
37	Wilson Bowden	Building Roads	
38	Provident	Bank/Discount	
39	Hammerton	Property	
40	Sena Cp	Electricals	
41	Blockley	Building Roads	
42	Strong & Fisher	Shoes/Leather	
43	Ten Hags	Industrials S-Z	
44	Scott TV	Leisure	
© Times Newspapers Ltd. Daily Total			

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily total for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in Saturday's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	TOTAL

BRITISH FUNDS			
1989/90	High	Low	Stock

SHORTS (Under Five Years)			
1989/90	High	Low	Stock

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS			
1989/90	High	Low	Stock

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS			
1989/90	High	Low	Stock

UNDATED			
1989/90	High	Low	Stock

INDEX-LINKED			
1989/90	High	Low	Stock

BANKS, DISCOUNT HP			
1989/90	High	Low	Stock

ELECTRICALS			
1989/90	High	Low	Stock

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Account starts nervously

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began yesterday. Dealings end February 23. Contango day February 26. Settlement day March 5.
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (ea) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES: PAGE 25).

1989/90	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

BREWERIES							

BUILDING, ROADS							

FINANCE, LAND							

FINANCIAL TRUSTS							

FOODS							

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS							

DRAPERY, STORES							

HOTELS, CATERERS							

INDUSTRIALS A-D							

1989/90	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

E-K							

L-R							

S-Z							

OILS, GAS							

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS							

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT							

TEXTILES							

TOBACCO							

TRANSPORT							

1989/90	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

INSURANCE							

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING							

PROPERTY							

SHOES, LEATHER							

OVERSEAS TRADERS							

WATER							

OVERSEAS TRADERS							

WATER							

OVERSEAS TRADERS							

Portfolio PLATINUM

© Times Newspapers Limited

DAILY DIVIDEND

£2,000

Claims required for +24 points

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

OVERSEAS TRADERS

1989/90	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

1989/90	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

PROPERTY

1989/90	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

SHOES, LEATHER

1989/90	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

TEXTILES

1989/90	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

TOBACCO

1989/90	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

TRANSPORT

1989/90	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

WATER

1989/90	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

Ex dividend = Ex at 1. Forecast dividend = Interim dividend. Price at suspension of Dividend and forward earnings = Ex other = Ex rights = Ex scrip or share split 1:100-free. No significant data.

سكزا من الأصل

WALL STREET

Dow slumps following US broker's problems

New York (Reuters) — The Dow Jones industrial average was 21 points lower at 2,627.20 in late afternoon. Blue chips gave up a slight recovery and were near the day's lows on news of financial problems at Drexel Burnham Lambert, the broker. Drexel said it was seeking an investor or merger partner.

Mr Ed Nicolski, an analyst at Piper Jaffray and Hopwood, said: "The most negative thing in the market is weakness in the international funds. They look like they have made tops."

Italy Fund was off 1/4 at 16. Spain Fund slipped 1/2 to 20 1/2.

WORLD MARKETS

SA shares fall after Mandela speech

Johannesburg (Reuters) — Shares closed nervously lower following statements by Mr Nelson Mandela after his long-awaited release from prison on Sunday.

Dealers said the market was confused by his speech in Cape Town which praised President F W de Klerk's recent reforms while reaffirming the demands of the African National Congress.

Mr Mandela's subsequent statement that he supports the ANC policy of nationalizing vital sectors of the economy, including mines, added to the confusion, as highlighted by wild fluctuations in the financial rand. But trading was thin.

The overall share index fell to a preliminary close of 3,271 from Friday's 3,341 and the all-gold index to 2,091 from 2,172, with added help from a listless gold price and ex-dividend situations in some leading shares.

The industrial index eased to 3,150 from 3,178.

Randfontein lost R2.50 at R30, while Vaal Reef, a heavyweight gold share trading ex-dividend, fell R20 to R420.

Among other minings, De Beers, the diamond group, shed 85 cents at R69.25 while platinum saw Impala down a rand at R75. Rustenburg, ex-dividend, fell R3 to R79. But Palamin, a copper share, firmed R1.50 to R55 against the trend.

● Frankfurt — The DAX index plunged by 58.25 points, or 3.1 per cent, to a midday low of 1,827.64, but it later regained half its losses to end at 1,860.39 — only 25.50 below Friday's close.

Shares fell sharply in moderate dealings amid continuing worries about the West German bond market.

Dealers, noting that many orders had emerged at the day's lowest levels, said that the market seemed poised to resume its upward course today.

● Hong Kong — The Hang Seng index rose by just 0.76 to 2,894.66. The broader-based Hong Kong index gained 0.71 to 1,899.53. Prices were slightly firmer at the close.

Last week, the Hang Seng index gained more than 150 points, or 5.75 per cent. Turnover shrank to HK\$859.49 million (£65.2 million) from Friday's HK\$1.52 billion.

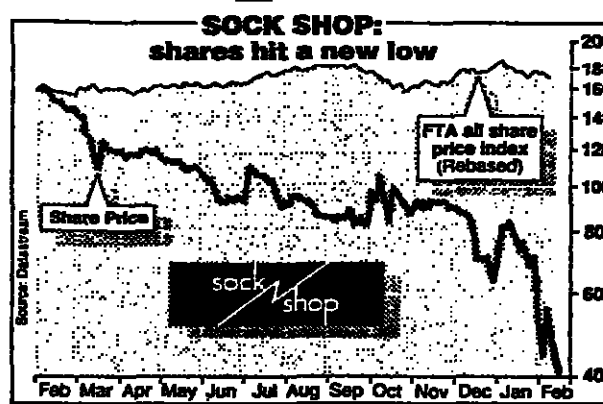
● Sydney — The All-Ordinaries index finished 7.2 down at 1,623.5. The market closed lower as concern about the high debt levels of several companies continued to overhang the market. Brokers said that the market was directionless, with Japan closed and no fresh news to influence trading.

● Singapore — Hefty gains in some shares lifted the Straits Times industrial index by 12.25 to a record 1,593.77. Shares closed firmer in moderate trading on selective blue chips and finance stocks.

● Tokyo — The market was closed for a public holiday.

STOCK MARKET

Prices depressed by Drexel



Miss Sophie Mirman, fell a further 7p to 41p after last week's losses of almost £4 million. The group is still in talks about a refinancing package. County NatWest WoodMac, the broker, said

successful refinancing arrangement — and that the shares could fall further. Filefax also lost 2p to 35p after giving a warning about a second-half trading loss. This follows a first-half deficit.

There have been reports that the group is looking for a merger partner. Dixon's, the high street electrical retailer, improved 2p to 128p, cheered by the news that Ratners, the jeweller, had attempted to put together the finance for a rescue bid of 160p a share. The move had been thwarted by several City institutions, who pulled out late in the day.

Kingfisher's 120p-a-share offer for Dixons was referred to the Monopolies Commission last month. Ratners finished 10p lower at 239p and Kingfisher eased 2p to 274p. Dalgety slipped 5p to

378p despite reporting interim figures at the upper end of expectations. These showed pre-tax profits up from £51.7 million to £57.1 million.

The bid speculation surrounding the Royal Bank of Scotland continued to fade with the price easing 1 1/4p to 187p. Last Friday, the Scottish Equitable announced that it had bought a 5 per cent stake in the bank. Dealers interpreted this as a defensive move by Royal Bank which took the speculators by surprise.

Other clearing banks followed the rest of the market lower ahead of their dividend-reporting season this month. Barclays eased 10p to 554p, Lloyds 10p to 278p, Midland 6p to 365p and National Westminster 6p to 336p. The market remains over-

381p on the surprise £138 million bid from Godfrey Davis, which sold its car rental business in 1981 and later bought Sunlight Laundry. Sketchley later fell back to 382p. Godfrey Davis finished 9p lower at 148 1/2p.

On the USM, trading started in The Wiltshire Brewery, the independent brewer. Placed at 70p, the shares opened at 78p before settling at 76p — a premium of 6p.

Elsewhere in the brewery sector, Grand Metropolitan fell 7p to 58p in response to the news of the proposed reorganization of the retailing operations.

The threat of continued violence by the ANC in its fight to gain power — and the prospect of wholesale nationalization when it does — saw the big South African gold producers marked sharply lower. Falls were reported among the heavyweights — Anglo American down £2 to £71.75, Driefontein 74p to 908p, Harmony 30p to 765p, Klerks 82p to £12.12, St Helena 86p to 749p, South-West 1p to £33 1/2 and Vaal Reef £3.50 to £72.75.

Pressures in the electronics group, dipped 6p to 68p in the wake of an article in The Times highlighting details of an acquisition requiring its shareholders' approval in 10 days' time.

Michael Clark

Lowndes Queensway holders back £70m rescue package

By Gillian Bowditch

Lowndes Queensway shareholders have approved the £70 million rescue package devised by its bankers to stop the group from becoming insolvent. At a meeting yesterday which lasted only a matter of minutes shareholders voted unanimously to pass the resolution.

About 50 people were at the meeting in Kent, including a number of Lowndes employees, but no questions were asked. One notable absentee was the outgoing chairman Mr James Gulliver who resigned from the board after the meeting. Mr Norman Ireland,

Lowndes's new chairman, led the meeting. The company's shares are trading at 6p.

Lowndes's bankers are keeping a close watch on the company. Mr Ireland and Mr Eddie Dayan, chief executive, will meet the banks monthly and give sales figures on a weekly basis.

An insurance policy safeguarding customers' deposits is to be put in place, worth up to £15 million. Lowndes will pay a £1.5 million premium for this.

Mr David Tibble, the company's finance director, says since the refinancing last

THE TIMES STOCK WATCH 0898 141 141

● Stock market comment: General market 0898 121220.
● Company news: 0898 121221.
● Active shares 0898 121225.
● Calls are charged at 38p per minute peak times and 25p per minute standard times. All charges include VAT.

Repayment of the £200 million debt has been delayed until March 1993 when £2.5 million has to be repaid, with £7.5 million due six months later and £10 million due in March 1994. By September that year the group will have to repay the remainder of the loan.

Pacific Dunlop rises to half-year £68.1m

From David Tweed, Sydney

Profits of Pacific Dunlop, the Australian rubber goods maker, grew strongly in the half-year to December 31 despite softening demand for some products because of an overall deterioration in retail sales.

The group lifted interim profits by 23 per cent to Aus\$153.26 million (£68.1 million) from Aus\$125 million. Sales rose by 18 per cent to Aus\$2.58 billion from Aus\$2.18 billion in the previous corresponding period, helped

Handley buys Batalas in £850,000 deal

Handley-Walker Group, the USM management consultancy, has acquired Batalas, which specializes in quality management consultancy, for £850,000 in cash and shares.

Batalas will operate independently within the group. Mr Peter Smith, chairman of Handley-Walker, said the merger creates one of Europe's largest consultancy practices.

Batalas, which made pre-tax profits of £120,000 in the nine months to end-December and has net assets of £450,000, is a leader in quality training.

ALPHA STOCKS

Vol '000	Vol '000	Vol '000	Vol '000
ADT 1,020	CU 389	LAG 888	Scot & N 322
Admiral 851	Coulson 891	Lloyds 4,014	Sealed 2,245
Adm-Lyons 1,045	Courtside 696	Lloyds Abn 130	Sedgwick 3
Amersat 1,389	Dagley 287	Lombard 806	Shell 940
ASDA 2,490	Daily 159	Lucas 159	Shaw 78
AB Foods 183	ECC 63	MAS 778	Slough 772
Argyll 859	Enterprise 125	Maxwell Cm 654	Smith & N 1,727
ARM 101	Ferrant 1,026	Mid Group 2,183	St Beech 4,611
BET 1,647	Fluoro 414	MEPC 13	South WH 144
BTR 2,120	PK 8,617	Midland 628	Stratford Ind 531
BAT 1,483	Gen Acc 180	Net West 1,228	STC 2,612
Barclays 1,013	GEC 3,004	Next 622	Stan Chart 747
Bass 429	Glaxo 1,028	Nth Food 349	Storehouse 912
Beazer 96	Globe Inv 56	PAO 282	Sum Alliance 429
Bentley 515	Gwynedd 255	Peatson 179	T & N 47
BICC 1,280	Granada 264	Pfizer 2,717	TI Group 45
Blue Arrow 1,274	Grand Met 1,732	Poly Pack 2,196	Tarmac 1,141
Blue Circle 1,284	GUS 'A' 60	Prudential 2,488	Time & Life 1,402
BOC 405	GRE 3,618	Racal 434	Taylor Wood 696
Boots 878	GKN 700	Racal Tele 835	TBS 3,553
BPS 270	Guthrie 448	Rank 228	Tesco 771
Br Aero 546	Hamm 'A' 50	Ric 840	Thorn EMI 940
Br Airways 386	Hanson 5,771	RAC 62	Transtel 629
Br Comm 905	H & C 855	Reid 253	THF 470
Br Gas 3,283	Heater 265	Reid 185	Unistar 829
Br Land 110	Hilldown 321	Reid 436	Unigate 457
Br Petrol 8,511	ICI 946	RMC Op 282	Unilever 331
Br Ship 946	Inchcape 33	RTZ 521	United Bk 823
Br Telecom 2,129	Jaguar 189	Royce 499	Unit News 90
Buzel 178	Kingfisher 331	Rothm 'B' 92	Walcotone 887
Burns 289	Land Sec 2,187	Royal Bank 5,321	Walbridge 1,192
Burton 1,602	Ladbroke 1,299	Sainsbury 648	Wills Fab 53
C&W 1,028	Land Sec 2,187	Sainsbury 648	Wimpey G 80
Cadbury 1,289	Laporte 494		

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

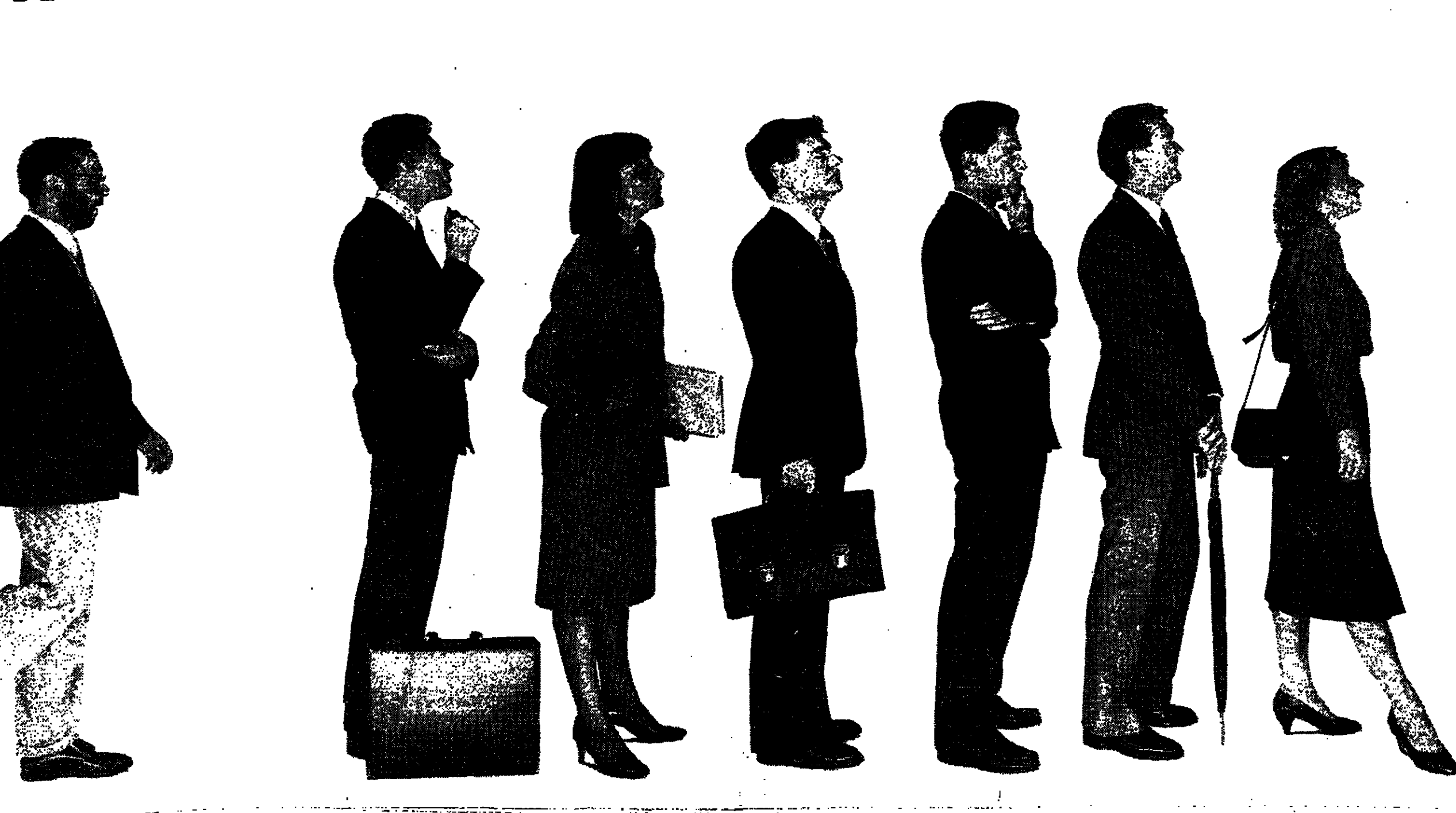
First Dealings February 6 Last Dealings February 16 Last Dealings February 16 For Settlement May 21
Call options were taken out on: 12/2/90 Astra Holdings, Aviva, Baxco, British Airways, BSA Resources, Carlsberg Int, Clivecham, Ferranti, Geric Resources, Greenwood, Hughes Foods, Priest Marston, Riteclough, Spectrum, Strong & Fisher.

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES	Value	Value	Value
Abstract Thai (100p)	95	22	
Analysis Higgs	90-11	78	
Anglo Park	90-11	78	
Anglo Scan Inv Test	90-11	78	
Bucca (42p)	90-11	78	
Cafe Ins	90-11	78	
Charwell	90-11	78	
Chitram Radio (210p)	270-42	138	
Citybond	270-42	138	
East Surrey Water	270-42	138	
Euromoney	270-42	138	
First Philip (50p)	270-42	138	
Garmore Energy Pacific	270-42	138	
Goldsmiths New	270-42	138	
Greenwin Dev (100p)	270-42	138	
Image Store (35p)	270-42	138	
Lon & New York (100p)	270-42	138	
Malayan Emerg	270-42	138	

(issue price in brackets).

WHAT WOULD YOU DO FOR A FAX MACHINE



BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Three-point appeal against Bond receiver

Mr Alan Bond's appeal against the appointment of receivers to his Australian brewing assets will begin in earnest next week.

The appeal, adjourned until February 21, is on three points — that a banking syndicate led by National Australia Bank had failed to show that the brewing assets were in jeopardy; that Justice Beach failed to take into account the harm done by the appointment of a receiver on December 29; that there was a legal argument over whether or not a court could appoint receivers when a creditor's claim was disputed.

Essex rises to £281,000

Essex Furniture, the manufacturer and retailer of upholstered furniture which came to the USM last October, reports a 14.2 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £281,000 in the six months to end-December. Turnover rose from £1.54 million to £1.55 million. Earnings per share climbed from 2.26p to 2.28p and there is an interim dividend of 1p.

Profits ahead at Fairway

Fairway, the computer and business stationery company, raised pre-tax profits £201,000 to £756,000, on 13.2 per cent higher turnover at £5.8 million, during the year to end-December. Dividends for the year increased to 2.75p from 2.5p by way of recommended final of 1.75p (1.5p), on earnings per share of 3.8p, up from 2.7p last time.

Automagic declines

Pre-tax profits at Automagic Holdings, the USM shoe repair-to-dry cleaning company, fell from £173,000 to £35,000 in the 24 weeks to October 14. The company said trading was affected by the exceptional dry weather conditions during the summer, transport strikes, high interest rates and increased occupancy costs. Sales rose only 5.5 per cent to £4.98 million. Earnings per share slumped to 0.4p, against 2p last time, but the interim dividend is maintained at 2.25p. Shoe repair sales did not reach expected levels, but key cutting saw further growth and London Valeting, the dry cleaning subsidiary, had increased turnover.

Hardy makes acquisition

Speakman, the environmental services company which makes products for water purification, has sold Wymouth Lehr, the specialist chemical trading business, to the MW Hardy Group, a private company which trades in specialty chemicals. Wymouth Lehr, which recently traded at about break-even, was sold for an estimated £500,000.

Caparo in \$39m US buy

Caparo Industries is extending its steel manufacturing interests in North America through a \$39 million acquisition of Bock Industries. The Indiana-based Bock makes structural steel tubing. Caparo is paying \$32 million and assuming debts of \$7 million for Bock which reported a pre-tax income of \$5.4 million in its last trading year to June 1988.

Filofax no nearer link with suitable partner

By Gillian Bowditch

Filofax, the ailing USM-quoted company, is no closer to finding a partner to help strengthen the business than it was six months ago, despite talks with several groups including Pentland Industries, the Reebok shoe company, which is also keen to diversify.

Pentland made a £180 million offer for Parker Pen just over a year ago but the deal fell through at the eleventh hour when some institutional shareholders in Parker withdrew only hours before the deal was signed. Since then it has been looking for another branded product to add a new leg to the business.

But Mr David Collischon, chairman of Filofax who yesterday warned that the group would make a loss in the second half, said he would not consider selling the business simply for an attractive price. "We are looking for a partner who will bring something to the party. Someone who shares our view of the product."

"We might consider someone who has a good distribution network overseas, for instance, but we are keeping an open mind about a potential partner. We have had talks with several parties but there is no one in the frame at the moment." He said that W H Smith was probably not the right partner. "They do not seem to be buying manufacturers," he said.

Filofax reported a loss of £554,000 in the first half and yesterday said there would be a further loss for the second half. Phillips & Drew expects the loss for the year to December to be around £1 million. The board has not yet decided whether to maintain the dividend.

Mr Collischon said Christmas had come late with a rush for Filofaxes in the week before December 25. Nor-



Expecting to report a loss in the second half: David Collischon, chairman of Filofax

mally the group makes 60 per cent of its sales in the four months before Christmas. Problems with the supply of leather for the new pocket Filofax also affected the business although sales of the new product have gone well and now account for 10 per cent of the group's total revenue.

Mr Collischon said there was no need for a refinancing as the group's gearing is less than 30 per cent. He and his

wife Lesley speak for 63 per cent of the group's shares.

It would be almost impossible for the group to make a major acquisition because of the low rating of the shares, which fell 2p to 36p yesterday, but Mr Collischon says on the whole he does not regret floating the company and has no plans to take it private. He said his bankers and shareholders continued to support the group. Mr Collischon said

all his research shows that there is still a strong market for the product and he does not agree with the theory that the business is in long-term decline.

He believes that the death of the Yuppies will lead to a wider market for Filofaxes but admits that the price will have to come down and that competition is strong. The group is looking to diversify further into publishing.

Hartwell predicts 19% rise in profit

By Martin Waller

Hartwell, the Oxford motor distributor, has launched its long-awaited defence document to the £151 million bid from the Jameel Group of Saudi Arabia.

The shares edged ahead 1p to 142p on the news — 6p above the offer.

Hartwell, chaired by Mr Peter Huggins, is forecasting pre-tax profits up 19 per cent to £12.4 million for the year to the end of this month and a dividend increased by 16 per cent to 3.6p. It claims that, after deducting the value of its development properties, the bid values its trading activities on a "devisory" earnings multiple of 10.8 times.

But Jameel claims the docu-



Huggins' defence broadsheet "scrapes the barrel," pointing out that the profit forecast includes a £1.2 million contribution from a pension fund.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

Index	Value	Daily ch/g	Yearly ch/g	Daily ch/g	Yearly ch/g	Daily ch/g	Yearly ch/g
The World	755.2	-0.5	-9.3	-0.1	-4.8	-0.1	-4.7
EAFF	146.2	-0.5	-9.4	-0.2	-4.9	-0.1	-4.8
Europe	146.4	-0.2	-8.6	-0.3	-4.7	0.2	-4.0
Nth America	725.6	-0.8	-4.6	-0.7	-2.6	-0.5	0.2
Nordic	155.9	-0.8	-4.7	-1.0	-2.9	-0.5	0.2
Pacific	480.4	-1.2	-10.7	-0.8	-5.9	-0.8	-6.2
Far East	1543.6	-0.2	-0.8	0.0	2.5	0.2	4.2
Australia	239.2	-0.2	1.7	0.0	5.0	0.2	6.9
Austria	3534.7	0.2	-10.9	0.0	-6.9	0.6	-6.4
Belgium	5157.0	0.2	-10.9	0.0	-6.1	0.6	-6.4
Canada	305.6	-0.6	-10.9	-0.5	-1.9	-0.2	-6.4
Denmark	1918.8	-0.2	28.8	0.0	33.9	0.2	35.3
Finland	878.3	-1.3	-10.8	-1.3	-7.9	-1.0	-6.3
France	530.1	-0.1	-11.7	1.0	-3.8	0.4	-7.2
Germany	1331.1	-0.1	1.1	0.0	4.2	0.2	6.2
Hong Kong	116.6	-0.2	1.2	0.0	3.7	0.1	6.3
Italy	151.2	-0.2	1.4	0.0	4.0	0.1	6.6
Japan	728.8	-1.8	-9.9	-1.7	-6.8	-1.4	-5.3
Netherlands	923.4	-1.9	0.6	-1.8	4.5	-1.5	5.7
New Zealand	2158.3	-0.5	-2.7	-0.1	2.3	-0.1	2.2
Norway	356.1	-1.0	-7.6	-0.9	-4.7	-0.6	-3.0
Spain	5475.6	0.3	-11.2	0.0	-6.4	0.6	-6.8
Sweden	858.9	-1.2	-9.2	-1.0	-5.8	-0.8	-4.6
Switzerland	93.3	-0.3	-9.5	0.0	-4.8	0.1	-4.9
UK	1522.4	-0.2	13.4	0.0	18.6	0.2	19.2
USA	263.7	-0.2	12.9	0.0	16.1	0.2	16.6
Sing/Malay	2048.1	0.2	2.7	0.5	5.7	0.6	7.9
South Africa	217.2	0.0	-9.2	0.0	-4.6	0.3	-3.6
Switzerland	1864.6	-0.2	-5.1	0.0	-1.6	0.1	-2.3
Switzerland	235.6	-0.2	-2.6	0.0	1.0	0.1	2.3
Switzerland	882.0	-1.2	-3.6	-0.6	-1.5	-0.8	1.3
UK	135.1	-1.2	-3.2	-0.7	-1.2	-0.9	1.7
USA	687.8	0.0	-4.6	0.0	-4.6	0.4	0.2
USA	431.9	-1.3	-10.8	-0.9	-6.1	-0.9	-6.1

Ermenegildo Zegna



Taglia Esclusiva.
Your style, your taste,
your size
and the best
fabric in the world.

Choose a
fabric, choose
a style
and decide on the details.
In only a month
you will have a
suit tailored
especially
for you.

MILAN

PARIS

LONDON

NEW YORK

TOKYO

37 New Bond Street, W1.

THAT COSTS LESS THAN £2,000 AND YOU



هكذا من الأصل

Hoteliers make bookings for eastern bloc growth

Melinda Wittstock discovers that as European barriers fall, groups have realized there are not enough hotels to meet growing demand for travel

Momentous change in eastern Europe and the Soviet Union has provoked unprecedented demand for more, and better, hotel accommodation, as growing numbers of tourists and businessmen, keen to explore new markets, head East.

British hoteliers, many who had been concentrating on pre-1992 western European expansion, have now woken up to opportunities in the east. There are simply not nearly enough hotels to meet growing demand, with many travellers describing those that do exist as shabby, badly-managed and grossly under-invested.

As growth in demand for British hotels slows to half the level seen in the 1980s, large British hotel companies are looking to bolster their ambitions by setting up joint ventures and management contracts in Moscow and most of the eastern European capitals.

Plans to move into Moscow have already been signalled by Britain's biggest hoteliers, with Mr Rocco Forte's Trusthouse Forte, Ladbroke - which operates the Hilton International chain outside the US - and Bass, which owns 1,389 Holiday Inns worldwide, leading the way.

Ladbroke will shortly announce a joint venture agreement to convert an existing residential and hotel complex near the Kremlin into a five-star Hilton, while Trusthouse Forte, Britain's leading hotel and catering group, is close to finalizing two joint ventures for five-star hotels in the Soviet capital.

Bass has confirmed it plans to join the fray by opening up a Holiday Inn in Moscow. But hotels analysts say only these large players, which are solely interested in opening up luxury hotels, will have sufficient capital to take advantage of the opportunities.

Mr Paul Slattery, a hotels analyst with Kleinwort Benson, said extensive hotel development in eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, particularly in the much-needed middle market sector, will not be seen until the latter half of the 1990s, after British, US and western European hoteliers have first made their mark on the continent.

He said: "It will be some time before the builders and developers - mainly the Austrians and the Swiss - have done the work necessary to see a mass expansion of UK hoteliers in the East.

"We won't see major growth until the late 1990s for



Moscow moves: Rocco Forte's THF group is already negotiating two joint ventures in Russia

reasons of negotiating delays alone. Even if you arrive in Budapest with suitcases full of money wanting to open up a hotel, continuing labyrinthine bureaucracy may hold up your plans for three to four years."

Trusthouse Forte, the first to investigate opportunities in the Soviet Union, has been at the negotiating table for more than a year. It said it hoped to announce the joint ventures shortly, even though the sites of the two Moscow THF hotels have not yet been chosen.

Mr Richard Power, a THF director, said the group was concentrating on identifying opportunities to open up eastern European versions of its luxury hotels, which include the Hyde Park Hotel in London, the Ritz in Madrid and the George V in Paris. It has already agreed to renovate and manage Poland's most famous hotel, the 208-room Bristol on the main boulevard in Warsaw.

The restoration of the Bristol, which first opened in 1901 but closed in the 1980s after falling into disrepair, is a joint venture between THF - with a 55 per cent share and management control - and Orbas, Poland's state-owned tourist agency, with 45 per cent. But

there are no plans as yet to expand into two- to four-star hotels, said Mr Power.

Ladbroke, which already operates the 323-room five-star Hilton in Budapest, also said it is only interested in opening luxury hotels geared to the business travellers in eastern Europe. It is in advanced negotiations for a hotel in Warsaw while it investigates other opportunities in Prague and throughout East Germany.

But despite such concentration on the luxury market, there are some hoteliers poised to make a move for the riskier middle market.

Queens Moat Houses, the British operator that is bidding £176 million for Norfolk Capital, is understood to be negotiating joint ventures throughout eastern Europe which will involve the creation of three- and four-star hotels aimed primarily at business travellers. It is to use its large presence in West Germany as a springboard into the East.

All hoteliers planning eastern moves will operate their hotels in hard currency so profits can immediately be repatriated back to Britain. "It's not a question of

attempting to turn roubles into hard currency, the dilemma facing McDonalds which has chosen to sell its food in Moscow in roubles," THF's Mr Power said.

Mr Michael Hirst, who took over from Mr John Jarvis last week as Hilton International chairman and chief executive, said: "We wouldn't be interested in eastern Europe or the Soviet Union unless we were certain we could negotiate the repatriation of hard currency back to the UK. The new Hiltons will operate in hard currency and be 100 per cent controlled by us."

Mr Power added: "As hotel owners, we're only interested in a proper stake and long-term commitment. We don't just want our name hung over the door with a franchise agreement. We are after 50-year joint ventures in which we have total control over operations, including choice of raw materials used for food."

The British hoteliers say they plan to look at refurbishment as well as new construction. But none are interested in franchising. They believe expansion is not worth doing unless they can live up to their names with 100 per cent management control.

BUSINESS LETTERS

Amend rating injustices before it is too late

From Mr T. R. Lawrence
Sir, As a rating surveyor I have come across many cases of small shopkeepers who initially rejoiced that their new 1990 rating assessment suggested little increase in the rates payable, or even a reduction.

However, they have since been shattered to learn that unusable upper floor residential accommodation, inaccessible other than by through the shop premises, will carry a

further payment of two times the Community Charge.

Not all shopkeepers wish to live over their shops and to tax them twice over is manifestly unfair in such circumstances and will be a contributory factor to an increasing number of business failures, empty shops and resultant unemployment.

Another unfairness is that Local Authorities will be required to charge rates on empty business premises,

which will be a further nail in the coffin for many for whom the writing may be on the wall already. I feel that something should be done to amend these injustices before it's too late.

Yours faithfully
T. R. LAWRENCE,
FRICS, FSVA, IRRV,
Lawrence Butler & Co,
Butler House,
86 High Street,
Hythe, Kent.

Civil way to clear debt

From Mr G. H. Wigglesworth and Mr Alan Turner
Sir, Your correspondent David Young reports (on the growth of credit arrears) which Mr Harry Kleeman, chairman of the CBI's smaller firms council, has expressed his serious concern.

For the small firm failure to honour a debt within the stated time by a firm with which business has been done is critical; not only can it lead to further borrowing at current high interest rates or even liquidation, but time of directors or partners in pursuing debtors, when they could be better occupied in the work of their businesses, which can seriously interfere with efficiency.

Britain would benefit from a civil procedure similar to that in use in West Germany. This is the "reminder proceedings" (mahnverfahren) which can best be described as a summary procedure.

Once a claim for payment has fallen due the claimant can submit to the courts a standard form setting out details of the debt; this constitutes a request for the court to issue a "notice to pay" (mahnbescheid). The application will be dealt with by a court official, and if he is satisfied that the submission is formally correct he will issue a notice to pay.

The debtor has two weeks to lodge an objection; if there is none, the applicant can apply for a "notice of enforcement" (vollstreckungsbescheid) which can include the costs suffered by him in pursuing these procedures. If an objection is lodged within the time laid down, the matter will proceed as a normal court action. These reminder procedures appear to offer substantial advantages to the creditor in that they are cheap, relatively simple and are a speedy way to obtain an enforceable title.

At a time when small businesses are being encouraged by the Government it is high time that action should be taken against those not meeting their bills by specified dates. The small firm is always reluctant to go to law and the debtor firms know it.

Yours faithfully,
G. H. WIGGLESWORTH
and ALAN TURNER,
Alan Turner and Associates,
5 Cochrane House,
Admirals Way,
Marsh Wall,
Isle of Dogs, E14.

Tax information

From Miss Fiona McFarlane
Sir, Can I assure Mr Cormack (January 30) that the Inland Revenue does provide an information service in Kent, Sussex, Hampshire, Dorset and Cornwall as well as the rest of the United Kingdom.

In fact people can call any of the 600-plus tax offices listed in the telephone directories under Inland Revenue, including the 104 offices mentioned specifically in our leaflet.

FIONA MCFARLANE,
Inland Revenue Press Office,
Somerset House,
London WC2.
February 1.

Unwilling hosts

From Mr Michael Bryant and Mr Mark Rittner
Sir, Eleven months ago, you published a letter from us (February 28) in which we drew attention to the unsatisfactory consequences of the manner in which the provisions of Section 44 of the Financial Services Act 1986 were being developed in relation to tied agents. We suggested that "Appointed Representative" status should be limited to individuals or businesses directly owned or controlled by host offices.

Sadly, the Homes Assured and Garston Amburst scandals seem only to reinforce the case which we then made. Clearly a number of host offices are unable or unwilling or even, dare we say, (so motivated by new business greed), to dare to police the activities of tied agents which they neither own nor control.

The time has come for LAUTRO (or is it SIB?) to amend the rules so that all activities of all tied agents are the direct responsibility of their host offices.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL BRYANT and
MARK RITTNER,
Rathbone Life and Pensions,
University House,
Lower Grosvenor Place,
London, SW1W.

Vanishing act

From R. J. Clothier
Sir, Yesterday, wanting a \$500 International Money Order, I took five \$100 notes to a bank in Oxford.

There, before my very eyes, my dollar notes were turned back into sterling and the sterling then turned back into dollars - an esoteric manoeuvre that added £18.07 to the price of the order itself.

"Money-changers" have had few friends over the centuries and I think that I saw why!
Yours faithfully,
R. J. CLOTHIER,
18 Somerton House,
Dukes Road, WC1.

Subsidy a burden

From Mr Rodney Atkinson
Sir, For a socialist to recommend State subsidy of childcare for working mothers is understandable, if misconceived. That Rodney Lord (The Times, January 27) should recommend this course to a Conservative government is extraordinary.

He compares the childcare subsidy with separate taxation of husband and wife, but this is a fallacious comparison. The second equalises the tax treatment of husbands, wives and single people. The first is an arbitrary subsidy to mothers and married couples paid for by single men and women.

With over 1.5 million unemployed in a country with one of the highest work participation rates (74 per cent of the working age group in employment), it is retraining of the unskilled and unemployed workforce and labour saving investment which is required, not further burdens on the increasingly shaky foundations of family life.

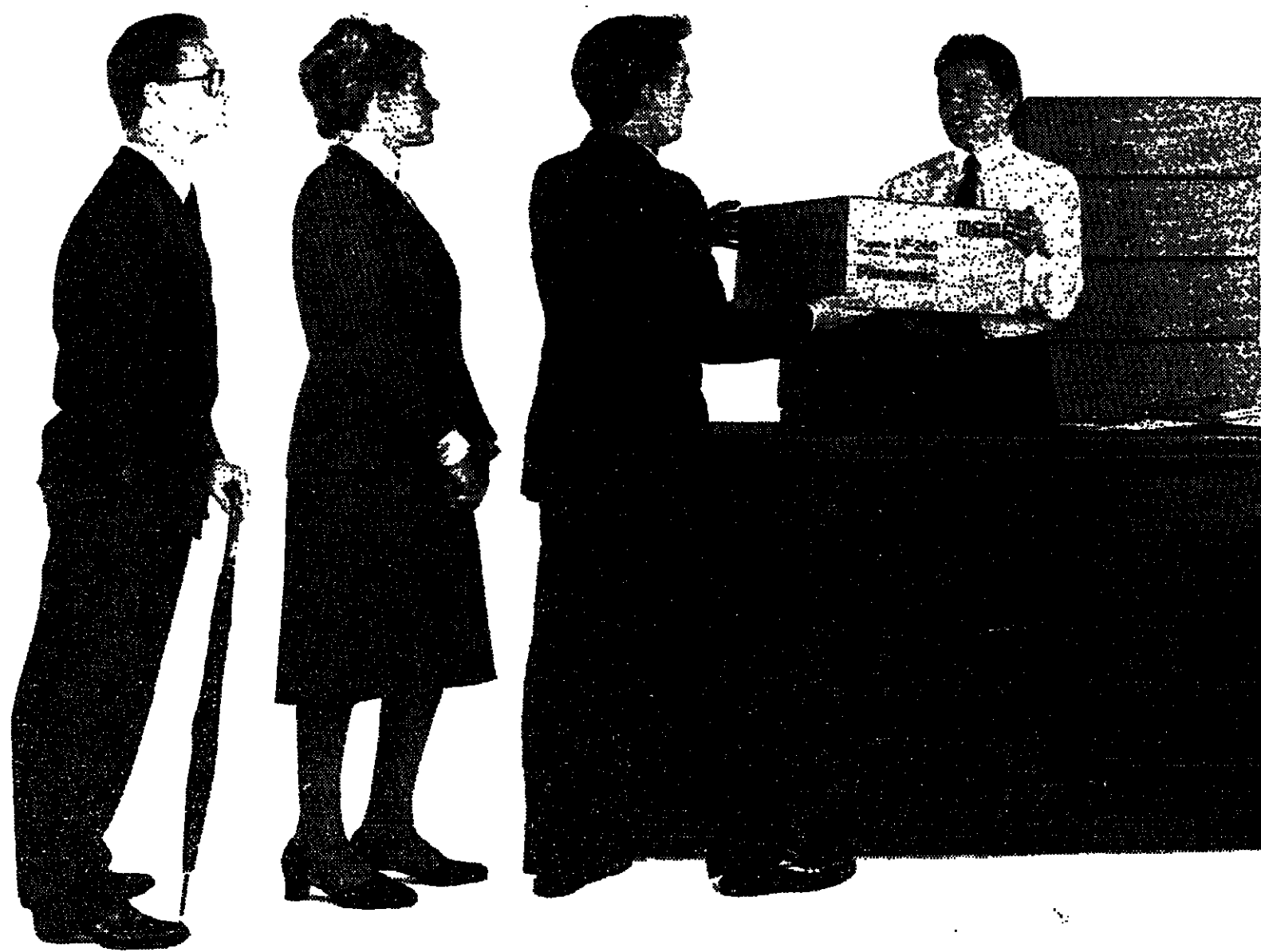
Lord's claim, that without State intervention, industry would not see its "own best interests so clearly", is reminiscent of the worst aspects of post-war British socialism. The market will naturally react to any labour shortages and people, with or without children, married or not, will

respond to higher pay and if necessary, finance their own childcare.

If government subsidises certain people, then others - who may be equally or more valuable to industry - will be taxed.

Like all State subsidies a childcare allowance would disadvantage some in order to finance the privileges of others, distort the labour market, destroy the institution subsidised (the family) and be a burden on the whole economy. It has no place in Conservative political economy.
Yours faithfully,
RODNEY E. B. ATKINSON,
60 Ashbourne Court,
Woodside Park Road, N12.

DON'T HAVE TO QUEUE TO USE? EXACTLY.



But don't worry, it could be the last time you have to queue for a fax, thanks to the 20 page memory on Panasonic's UF260.

Instead of waiting for your documents to crawl through the machine, you can feed them all in at once.

After they have been scanned and memorised you just key in your instructions and return to your desk. Or go to lunch.

It won't matter if the fax runs out of paper during your absence. Incoming letters will simply be memorised and printed later.

Of course you've seen these features on fax machines before. But not for under £2,000.

For more information on the Panasonic range dial 100 and ask for freephone Panasonic. Or fill in the coupon next time you're queuing for the fax.

To: Francine Kane, Panasonic Business Systems (UK) Ltd.,
Panasonic House, Wiltougbay Road, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 4FP.
Tel: 0344 853916. Fax: 0344 862 090. Telex: 847652.

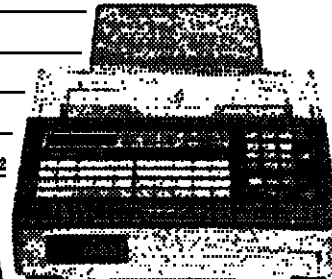
Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Tel. No. _____

Panasonic
OFFICIAL AUTHORITY



50

Law T
Staff specialists to the
95 Aldwych, London
la

01-481 4481

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

Continued on next page

More scope
for the
individual.
In Commercial
Property.



Underlying the Linklaters & Paines team approach is a message for those who aspire to individual success. Join us and you'll have the chance to work on the kind of projects which can only be found with a leading City firm.

This message holds true whatever type of law you practise with us, as a look at our Property Department confirms.

The sheer variety of commercial work we handle contrasts sharply with the popular view of property law, consisting of routine conveyancing. It is one of our core practice areas and we cover every aspect with the result that our lawyers gain an unparalleled breadth of experience.

Each matter calls for personal involvement from initial instruction to completion, with the result that you will develop strong client relationships. And while real responsibility comes sooner rather than later, you will always be able to draw on the experience of other lawyers in the department.

But in spite of the firm's commitment to team work, individuality still holds the key to the way we work best. We look for innovation, imagination, intellect and a commercial perspective - qualities which can only come from the individual.

If you would like to know more about the openings we have for qualified commercial property lawyers, contact Anna Thorne on 01-606 7080, or write to her at Barrington House, 59-67 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7JA.

**L
&P**

LINKLATERS & PAINES

Senior Legal Adviser

INTERNATIONAL OIL & GAS

To Manage Legal Activities In Our UK Based Company

Uxbridge

Oryx UK Energy Company, a subsidiary of the largest independent oil & gas exploration and production company in the world, is expanding its horizons. Our launch into the international arena is centred in the UK and founded on \$1 billion-plus acquisitions primarily in the North Sea, as well as the Far East, South America, Italy and West Africa.

We require a Senior Legal Adviser who will report to the Managing Director and assume responsibilities for all legal matters worldwide (excluding North America). This is an exceptional position for a senior professional with at least 10 years oil & gas industry experience, who now seeks to exert substantial influence over the successful development of a new and fast growing company. You must have the depth of legal knowledge, breadth of commercial understanding and strength of intellect to influence and actively assist negotiations



ORYX

with partner companies, foreign governments and national oil companies, as well as senior colleagues in a dynamic management team.

The salary offered will be commensurate with experience and will reflect the substantial responsibilities involved. Our comprehensive and highly competitive benefits package will include a fully expensed company car, non-contributory pension plan, stock ownership plans and assistance with relocation where appropriate (the company is moving its HQ to Uxbridge in March 1990).

In the first instance please post or fax your C.V. to: Julian Yates, Human Resources Manager, Oryx UK Energy Company, The Pentagon, Fifth Floor, 48 Chiswell Street, LONDON EC1Y 4SB. Fax: 01-920 2654. Tel: 01-920 2811.

SOLICITOR

Social Services

up to £22,000

Plus Overtime for Committee attendance and a very good Car Lease Scheme

I wish to recruit a full/part time Solicitor to assist me in providing legal advice and support arising from the Council's Social Services functions, which principally includes Child Protection work in the Juvenile and High Courts.

To be successful you will:

• ideally have gained some post qualification experience of Social Services work, although applications from candidates wishing to specialise in this area will be considered.

• be able to undertake your own advocacy.

You will also have the opportunity to become involved in other aspects of the Council's legal activities.

We take a flexible attitude and duties can be arranged to suit individual experience and preference.

Applicants should be able to demonstrate substantial and relevant experience gained within a Local Authority or similar environment.

If you are interested, telephone Paul Clough on 01-592 4500, extension 3103 for an informal discussion.

For an application form and job details contact the address below.



Central Administration, Town Clerk's Department, Civic Centre, Dagenham RM10 7BN. Telephone 01-582 4500, ext. 2151. Closing date: 2nd March. Interviews: 16th March.

An Equal Opportunity Employer.

LAWYERS

Reading

c.£22,000 + Car + BUPA

Quite simply, you'll be joining Thames Water at a unique point in its development — and that makes for an interesting environment in which to test and develop your skills.

You'll join the legal team at Thames Water Utilities Limited the principal operating subsidiary of Thames Water plc.

Openings exist in two areas:-

Operations — where you will be part of a small team providing legal advice across the whole spectrum of water service operations, including environmental and planning law. Ref: SL13/MG2-E6.

Litigation — as one of three solicitors handling all kinds of litigation, with responsibility for the professional supervision of a large computerised debt recovery operation. This post will require regular visits to our Swindon office. Ref: SL15/MG2-E6.

In addition to salary, our benefits package includes contributory pension scheme, leased company car, performance-related pay and BUPA (family) membership.

Why not practice your expertise in a new environment?

Call Sarah Lock on 0734 567497 for an application form. Please quote appropriate reference number. Closing date:- 12/3/90.



RUNNING WATER FOR YOU

COMMERCIAL LAWYERS

LONDON AND SOLIHULL

PowerGen is one of the three new generating companies that will be created from the privatisation of the Electricity Industry. We will be operating in a unique market place and our organisation is developing to take advantage of new opportunities which will provide a constant challenge to highly motivated individuals.

We now need two commercially minded lawyers to join our legal team.

COMMERCIAL - LONDON

Based in the City, we are seeking a qualified solicitor or barrister with a minimum of five years experience gained in either private practice or the industrial sector. You will have had experience in the negotiation and drafting of complex commercial agreements including joint venture agreements. Experience in the energy sector or construction industry whilst not essential would be advantageous.

COMPETITION - SOLIHULL

Based in Solihull, West Midlands, we require a qualified solicitor or barrister with at least three years practical experience of UK and EEC competition law. This position will involve advising PowerGen on all aspects of competition law and in matters of a regulatory nature.

For both posts you should have relevant experience, commercial awareness and strong interpersonal skills to establish good working relationships with all levels of management. The ability to work effectively in a multi-disciplinary team is important. We offer a competitive salary supported by a good range of benefits, including relocation assistance where appropriate.

Applications should include a full CV (which will be treated in strict confidence), and should be addressed to David Jackson, Company Secretary and Director of Legal Services, PowerGen, 53 New Broad Street, London EC2M 1JJ.

For further information please telephone 01-826 2743.

As an equal opportunity employer we welcome applications from men and women including ethnic minorities and the disabled.



THE EMERGING COMPETITION
PowerGen is currently a division of the CEGB

Senior U.S. Qualified lawyer required for Isle of Man Office of David Capps & Co. Must have experience in Liberator Corporate and Maritime Law and International Insurance Management. Fluency in French and Spanish essential - New York based experience preferred.
Contact: Philip Holman Capco House, 31-37 North Quay, Douglas, Isle of Man. Telephone 0624 662977

COMPUTERS AND LAW
If you are looking for a challenge and want to use your legal skills as a computer lawyer, then you should consider the exciting and fast growing field of computer law. We are now looking for experienced and motivated lawyers to join our team. Excellent pay and conditions.
Further details from Richard Brockbank on 0235 510396/7. Office Law and Computing.

City/West End

EMPLOYMENT

c. £45,000

A major Central London practice wishes to appoint an additional solicitor, with about four years' relevant experience, to join its established and expanding employment department. The department handles a broad spectrum of matters, contentious and non-contentious. Prerequisites will be an analytical and creative approach together with the ability to contribute to the department's overall development.

EEC/COMPETITION

c. £40,000

A prominent and progressive City practice seeks a lawyer, with up to three years' relevant experience, to join its team active in UK and EEC competition and trade law. The successful candidate can look forward to a stimulating workload in a friendly and informal environment.

BANKING

£35,000+

We are instructed by a recognised medium sized City firm to recruit a solicitor, admitted about two years, to join a high profile group specialising in banking transactions including mainstream corporate work, assets financing, acquisitions and trade and project finance.

Out of London

CIVIL/CRIMINAL LITIGATION & ATTRACTIVE

An established Nottinghamshire practice needs a career minded litigation solicitor. An ability to handle a varied civil and criminal caseload will be required. The successful applicant who will have up to five years ppe will join an expanding friendly practice.

LITIGATION BIAS

To £20,000

A Devon practice urgently needs a young solicitor for general work with a litigation bias for its head office. The ideal applicant will have up to eighteen months ppe. There is also a vacancy for a purely litigation solicitor in a branch office.

Law Personnel
PROFESSIONAL LIMITED
Staff specialists to the legal profession worldwide
95 Aldwych, London WC2B 4JF Tel: 01-242 1281
(answerphone after office hours)

IS SMALL BEAUTIFUL?

We'll think so. Well established small friendly Kensington law firm have vacancy for Civil Litigation Partner - minimum 5 years experience excellent prospects £35,000 to £40,000 p.a.
Please telephone Ann Adams 937-0934 or send C.V. to: Arnold Tickner & Co. 4 Wrights Lane London W8 6TJ.

THE LAW

Penalties without a plan

The rejection in the White Paper on criminal justice last week of a sentencing council will disappoint a growing number of pressure groups who believe such a body would provide the answers to two of the most pressing problems of the criminal justice system: the growth of prison numbers and disparity of sentences imposed on offenders.

But what is the basis of this belief? A sentencing council is something of a penological unicorn; many have heard of one, but nobody has seen one in action. Not one Commonwealth jurisdiction, whose sentencing laws resemble those here, has set up such a council, and the experience of American jurisdictions, which have appointed sentencing commissions in a very different context, indicates that expectations are not always fulfilled.

In some cases, the different backgrounds of the various commissioners lead to fundamental disagreements, which have made coherent policies impossible to achieve. In others, the guidelines of commissions have been vetoed by the legislature. Some of the guideline systems that took effect, such as those of Pennsylvania, would not satisfy supporters of a sentencing council; they specify wide judicial discretion, subject to mandatory minimum sentences. The only state system (in Minnesota) re-



Many people are disappointed that the proposal for a sentencing council has been rejected. But David A. Thomas questions its role

garded as reasonably successful relies on a crude grid, which groups cases simply by reference to the legal definition of the offence and "criminal history score", calculated on the number of previous convictions.

The more sophisticated system produced by the United States Sentencing Commission for the federal criminal courts avoids some of these criticisms. But it mostly produces sentences much more severe than would be passed here for equivalent offences.

How would a sentencing council work? Assuming agreement on who should appoint its members, there would doubtless be a judge as chairman and representatives of interested constituencies, both from the police and probation service. Unanimity would not necessarily come easily.

What form would the guidelines take? Would the commission have to provide detailed instructions for every conceivable case, or broad general principles leaving much to the interpretation of the sentencer? And, most crucial, there is the question of what authority the guidelines would

have and how they would be promulgated. Advisory guidelines, which were not legally binding, might be published by the council (rather as the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board publishes suggested starting points for compensation in personal injury cases). But these would have limited effect if sentencers were free to ignore them.

Mandatory guidelines, which sentencers were bound to follow, would necessarily be promulgated as statutory instruments, requiring parliamentary approval.

Given the high level of political interest they would generate, it is easy to imagine the difficulties they would encounter in this process, with the result that the council would tailor its guidelines to a shape that would find political favour.

But whatever their form, the practical effect guidelines would have would depend, ultimately, on the extent to which they attracted the support of the higher judiciary. Sentencing commissions in the American juris-

dictions have been created to fill a void left by the reluctance of American appellate courts to take sentencing seriously; few American jurisdictions have any significant tradition of appellate review of sentences or accumulated case law on sentencing. But a sentencing council in England would be a direct competitor of the Court of Appeal, which would always have the last word.

Advisory guidelines would depend entirely for their effect on being adopted by the Court of Appeal; mandatory guidelines would require interpretation and application to particular cases. So if senior judges were implicitly opposed to a sentencing council or to its guidelines, there is not much hope of its achieving the objects its proponents seek.

The Court of Appeal is a familiar institution whose strengths and deficiencies can be assessed on the basis of evidence: the sentencing council is an unknown quantity; the ambitious claims made for it owe everything to hope and nothing to experience.

There is undoubtedly a need for a more considered approach to the

development of a coherent sentencing policy, which cannot be achieved by direct parliamentary legislation. But evolution rather than revolution may be the best way to get it.

In the past 10 years, the Court of Appeal has taken initiatives in formulating sentencing policy, and not all its guidance has been focused on custodial sentences for serious crimes. The guidelines dealing with social security fraud, in particular, show that the court is capable of tackling offences on the borderline between custodial and non-custodial sentences, and in lowering as well as raising sentence levels.

Yet there is a major obstacle to the development of a coherent sentencing policy in this way: Parliament's insistence on constant changes in the statutory framework under which sentencers operate; one statute follows another almost before the ink is dry, and the intervals between the invention of one form of sentence and its replacement by another are constantly reduced.

What is needed more than anything is a moratorium on sentencing legislation, so that coherent strategies can be developed within a settled framework. Unfortunately, the White Paper leaves no hope of that.

David A. Thomas, a lecturer at the Institute of Criminology, Cambridge, is editor of Current Sentencing Practice.

MAKE YOUR VERY OWN SENTENCING COUNCIL

① Take the White Paper

② Score out the bits you don't like

③ Fold it

④ Voilà!



GED.

Family Division

Law Report February 13 1990

Chancery Division

Sterilization sanction procedure explained

In re C

Before Mr Justice Thorpe

[Judgment February 9]

A note of advice issued by the Official Solicitor (1989) 2 FLR 447) on the procedure to be followed on seeking a declaration that the proposed sterilization of a mentally handicapped woman was lawful was not intended to be a mandatory code.

Mr Justice Thorpe so stated in open court in the Family Division after a hearing in chambers and giving general guidelines on the procedure to be followed on seeking such declarations.

Mr Roy Warner for the applicant, the patient's sister, Mr Michael Nicholls, solicitor, for the guardian ad litem.

MR JUSTICE THORPE said that in *In re F (Mental Patient: Sterilization)* (1989) 2 WLR 1025, 1076 Lord Brandon of Oakbrook had said: "there will,

in cases of this kind, have to be a summons for directions heard by a judge, and it should be left to him to decide on the hearing of such summons, whether any further directions should be given in the particular case before him."

His Lordship said that the registry on issuing an originating summons seeking such a declaration should fix a date for directions before a judge of the Family Division for the first open date after the passage of eight weeks.

In that time the parties would be able to file evidence in accordance with Order 28 of the Rules of the Supreme Court. At that hearing the judge would be able to review the case.

If the case appeared complex then it would be necessary to give further directions including directions as to time. However, in a straightforward case it might be possible to dispose of

the case there and then without further adjournment.

It had to be remembered that the longer the litigation, the longer the period in which the patient might be exposed to risk.

In case of emergency the originating summons could always be preceded by an *ex parte* hearing when on an undertaking to issue a summons the court might consider abridging the time limits or dispensing with procedures as appropriate.

All the evidence including expert evidence should be by affidavit whether adduced by the plaintiff or the Official Solicitor. Hearsay evidence or reports from other sources should be regarded as inadmissible.

The Official Solicitor should be free to present his case in the same way as the plaintiff and should not be under an obligation to submit a report.

In response to *In re F*, the

Official Solicitor drafted his note of advice. He also drafted a questionnaire and on receiving notice of any application for the sterilization of a patient it was his practice to send a copy of the note of advice and of the questionnaire to the plaintiff's solicitors.

The note of advice was not intended to be a mandatory code.

Paragraph 5 of the note suggested that there would always be two hearings before a judge but in certain cases his Lordship had explained, it would be appropriate to elide the two hearings into one.

The last sentence of paragraph 6 of the note stated: "The proceedings will normally involve a thorough adversarial investigation of all possible viewpoints and any possible alternatives to sterilization."

That sentence should not be interpreted as precluding or restricting the possibility that

straightforward cases might be disposed of without oral evidence or dissent.

The Official Solicitor, as well as acting as the guardian ad litem of the patient in most cases would also appear as an *ex officio* defendant in some.

The first sentence in paragraph 7 needed to be expanded to make that clear. Whichever his role, all that followed was of equal application.

The questionnaire was issued to indicate the matters which the Official Solicitor would hope to see covered in the presentation of the plaintiff's case.

An answer was not obligatory. However, if answered, it should be settled by the plaintiff's solicitors, with or without the assistance of counsel, and should reflect the evidence obtained from the family and from the experts.

Solicitors: Tassell & Son, Faversham; Official Solicitor.

Arguable defence claim fails in tit for tat copyright case

Express Newspapers plc v News (UK) Ltd and Others

Before Sir Nicolas Browne-Wilkinson, Vice-Chancellor

[Judgment February 12]

Where a plaintiff had successfully obtained judgment against a defendant on the ground that the defendant had no arguable defence, it could not resist a mirror-image counterclaim by the defendant on indistinguishable facts, even if it could demonstrate that there was an arguable defence.

Sir Nicolas Browne-Wilkinson, Vice-Chancellor, so held in the Chancery Division in giving summary judgment on the claim of the first defendant, News (UK) Ltd, the proprietor of *Today* newspaper, to restrain the plaintiff, Express Newspapers plc, the proprietor of the *Daily Express* and the *Daily Star* newspapers, from infringing the copyright in relation to an interview with Miss Marina Ogilvy and Mr Paul Mowatt published in the *Today* issue of October 9, 1989.

The second defendant was Mr David Montgomery, editor of *Today* and the third defendant was Mr Timothy Miles, the reporter who wrote the article in *Today*.

Mr Peter Prescott for the defendants; Mr Michael Burton, QC and Miss Mary Victoria for the plaintiff.

THE VICE-CHANCELLOR said that this was an application by News (UK) Ltd for summary judgment under Order 14 of the Rules of the Supreme Court on its counterclaim in the action which concerned the mutual copying of news stories by two newspapers.

A reporter from the *Daily Express* on a flight between Bali and Hong Kong managed to sit next to Miss Pamela Bordes who enjoyed publicity value on account of her alleged relationship with people in the public eye.

On April 3, 1989 there was a front page article on the *Daily Express* containing quotations from Miss Bordes and claiming to be the result of an exclusive interview.

On the same day an article also appeared in *Today* but it was not so sensational. However, in the second edition of *Today* the story reappeared in a much more sensational form.

containing the verbatim quotations from the *Daily Express* article but not acknowledging their source.

Express Newspapers then started proceedings against News (UK) Ltd for infringement of copyright seeking damages and aggravated damages.

In October 1989 a reporter on *Today* obtained an exclusive interview with Miss Marina Ogilvy and her boyfriend Mr Paul Mowatt. Miss Ogilvy, a member of the Royal family, was expecting a baby.

On October 9 an article appeared in *Today* containing quotations from Miss Ogilvy. On October 10, the *Daily Star* lead story contained an article on Miss Ogilvy large parts of which had been taken from the *Today* story including the quotations.

Deeply embedded in the article was a reference, preceding one of the quotations, acknowledging that the words had been spoken to *Today*.

Shortly afterwards, News (UK) Ltd served a defence to the *Express* claim in relation to the Bordes article. It also served a counterclaim that was an exact mirror image of the *Express* claim in relation to the pirating of the Ogilvy article.

Unfortunately the two claims had come before the court separately. Mr Blanco White, QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the Chancery Division, had already granted summary judgment and an inquiry into damages on the *Express* claim. Now the action on the counterclaim was before his Lordship.

The question was whether Express Newspapers had an arguable defence.

The leading case was *Walter v Lane* (1900) AC 539 in which a reporter of *The Times* had taken a verbatim shorthand note of speeches of Lord Rosebery which were then published in *The Times*.

The defendant then compiled a book of Lord Rosebery's speeches including the ones published in *The Times*. It was held that *The Times* had the defence when it published the speeches.

In spite of arguments to the contrary, his Lordship held that *Walter v Lane* was still undeniably good law and accordingly *Today* did have copyright in the

words of Miss Ogilvy which had been infringed.

However, Express Newspapers had an arguable defence. It was a well established practice for newspapers to search other newspapers for stories they had missed and then to recast them in their own words.

It was the law that that was a breach of copyright and that one newspaper had a monopoly on a scoop it would not be in the public interest in the dissemination of news to the public at large.

Parliament had provided in section 30(2) of the Copyright Act 1988 that: "Fair dealing with a work (other than a photograph) for the purpose of reporting current events does not infringe any copyright in the work... provided that it is accompanied by a sufficient acknowledgment."

That fair-dealing rule plainly provided an arguable defence to a claim that the whole of the newspaper article was entitled to copyright.

In fact, following the well established Press practice, several of the other newspapers had picked up the Ogilvy story and used the quotations. *The Times* and *The Daily Mirror* had expressed acknowledgements; other papers were less clear.

Accordingly, apart from the fact that the defendants' counterclaim against the plaintiff was the mirror image of the plaintiff's claim against the defendants, his Lordship would have given the plaintiff leave to defend the counterclaim.

But the plaintiff had got summary judgment on indistinguishable facts.

What was sauce for the goose was sauce for the gander, or in legal terms, it was not permissible to blow hot and cold. That was the reasoning which underlay the doctrine of approbation and reprobation in the law of contract.

To apply that doctrine to the instant case was a novel extension. But it was wholly inconsistent for Express Newspapers to claim that there was no arguable defence when it suited it and vice-versa when it did not.

Accordingly there would be summary judgment on the counterclaim.

Solicitors: Farrer & Co, Mishcon de Reya.

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

INSOLVENCY LAWYER

City

To £42,000

A prestigious City firm renowned for the quality of its Company Commercial department and its wide range of national and international clients is in the process of restructuring and developing its Insolvency and Corporate Recovery team, to capitalise on the rapid growth in this particular area.

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a determined and ambitious solicitor to join this department at this unique stage in its development. With 2-4 years' PQE in related fields and the ability and confidence to handle large and complex issues, the successful applicant is likely to have been in a large City or West End practice or have had good and relevant experience in commerce.

The remuneration package will be highly competitive and partnership prospects are excellent.

For further information on this appointment please call Simon Eagan on 01 242 6321 or write to him at 75 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8US, enclosing your C.V.

PERSONNEL • RESOURCES

NATIONAL MUTUAL LIFE

LEGAL GRADUATE required

LEGAL SERVICES/ COMPANY SECRETARY'S OFFICE

A Legal Graduate is required to join the Legal Services Department to assist the Company Secretary who is also the Legal Services Manager in an area of increasing workload. In particular the candidate should have some knowledge and experience of life and pensions business and the attendant legislation.

The Department deals with the whole spectrum of the law as it affects the Society and its business. This includes its pensions business, its mortgage lending, support and advice to the Branches, the Marketing Department and indeed all the Head Office Departments, the minuting of meetings, Company administration and Company returns in respect of both the Society and the subsidiaries of the Society and generally.

The job entails keeping abreast of legislation and current practice as it affects the Society's business including pensions, trust arrangements and wherever we seek to market our products. The Financial Services Act 1986 is a trenchant example of such legislation.

The applicant must have a keen appetite for work in all these fields and an ability to adapt and relate to Solicitors and Counsel whom we see and consult in the course of our business. In essence the job is dealing with the law as it relates to an active life and pensions office.

The vacancy is based in our new Head Office at Hitchin, set in 29 acres of parkland. The employment package consists of a competitive salary, annual bonus, staff mortgage and free lunches. After a qualifying period a pension scheme and private health insurance are available.

Please reply, sending your c.v. to Mr J. G. Stuart, Personnel & Training Manager The Priory, Priory Park, Hitchin, Herts SG5 2DW. Telephone 0462 422422 Extension 3201

A member of the Association of British Insurers and LAUTRO



CAYMAN ISLANDS

GOVERNMENT OF THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

The Government of the Cayman Islands has vacancies for the position of Law Lecturer

The Cayman Islands are a British Crown Colony in the West Indies, located 450 miles south of Miami, Florida. A successful offshore financial centre and popular tourist destination with a population of 26,000 they enjoy one of the highest living standards in the Caribbean.

Applicants should have a good law degree, a professional qualification and previous relevant experience teaching or in practice. Experience or an interest in Criminal Law, Contracts, Conflicts of Law, Evidence, Equity and Trusts or Land Law would be an asset as would a record of research and publication.

Salary will be in the range of C\$24,000-32,000 per annum tax free. (C\$1 = US\$1.20) Benefits include air passages, medical care and housing allowance of 50% of rent up to a maximum Government contribution of C\$200 per month. Appointment will be on a two year contract.

Application forms, together with job description and notes on conditions of service are available from:

The Cayman Islands Government Office
Treasury House
100 Broad Street
London SW3 1EX
Telephone 01-823-7813

Application forms together with a curriculum vitae should be completed and returned by March 16, 1990.

THE LAW

The untapped workforce

INNS AND OUTS

The least appreciated, most underestimated members of any law team are support staff. In scores of firms the contribution to the performance of the practice made by legal secretaries, receptionists and even legal executives is consistently undervalued. Their potential for improving the effectiveness of the firm is not considered.

It is not hard to see why. Although the partnership principle embodies the best features of a co-operative system, the reality in many law firms is a rigid and tyrannical hierarchy resembling, as one solicitor described it, Nicolae Ceausescu's Romania.

Within such a hierarchy a rigid caste system applies. Qualified professional staff are dominant. Unqualified staff and non-fee earners are the hewers of wood whose role is seldom seen to extend beyond the routine.

This is not to say that there are always poor personal relations between lawyers and their secretaries. Some friendships and personal ties of loyalty exist. But anecdotal evidence suggests that this is not always so, and in many cases legal secretaries endure a bored indifference to their work which is made tolerable

Several law firms have found that giving their secretaries more interesting work leads to a greater efficiency,

Edward Fennell reports

only by the size of their salaries. In one or two firms this is starting to change. Rather than relegating support staff to an insignificant role, some partnerships are beginning to perceive their secretaries as a

'They sit down with their lawyers to discuss room for improvement'

considerable untapped force which could be mobilized far more usefully.

One example of this comes from Lawrence Graham, the ambitious outfit at the bottom of Fleet Street which is distinguished by the number of its partners who have backgrounds in industry and

commerce. Intent on introducing an unstuffy atmosphere into the law, Lawrence Graham has embarked recently on a long-term programme to give support staff a greater sense of involvement with the firm.

With the object of increasing motivation, secretaries are being provided with a better understanding of the firm's business while at the same time the barriers between them and the lawyers are being broken down.

In return for this Lawrence Graham hopes to secure improved efficiency. There are already signs that this is being achieved.

The most striking feature of the Lawrence Graham initiative is the secretarial development programme. Secretaries are being given far more information and education on the working of their departments so that they have a



Involvement: John Trotman with his secretary, Susana King

better understanding of the work of lawyers. They have been undertaking exercises jointly with their bosses to identify where the internal communications system needs improvement.

"On the mornings of the course the secretaries undertake personality questionnaires to develop their self-awareness," says John Trotman, the engineering-trained administrative director who is the brains behind the scheme. "And then in the afternoon

they sit down individually with their lawyers to discuss openly and honestly where there are problems and room for improvement in the way they work together."

"I've never come across anything like this before," says a newly recruited legal secretary whose experience of every other firm was that "all they were interested in was getting the typing done as fast as possible". But with a better working relationship with her boss, and a better understanding of the significance of what she is doing, she is enjoying her work more and doing it better.

One obvious measure of success of the programme will be its impact on lawyers' chargeable time. Trotman says that because secretaries have traditionally been uninformed about their lawyers' work, they have needed more supervision than under the new system. Now at Lawrence Graham, the signs are that chargeable time is going up as lawyers feel more confident about entrusting work to their secretaries.

And a greater sense of involvement leads to lower staff turnover and a saving on recruitment agency fees. It may be enlightened self-interest but a more positive approach to secretarial staff is good news.

London firms Denton Hall Bargin & Warrens and Lawrence Graham have suffered the indignity of losing partners to another law firm. Bearable perhaps if they were going into a non-competitive firm — but they intend to join an aggressive American firm, Conder Brothers. The move is all the more surprising because the departing Denton Hall partner, Steven Beharrell, has been with the firm since starting articles there in 1963. Beharrell was one of the architects of Denton Hall's rapid growth in the past few years. Lawrence Graham in turn brought in Hugh Thompson two years ago to build up a banking practice from scratch. Both partners dismiss suggestions that they are bailing out. Conder has set up an associated English law firm, Beharrell Thompson & Co, financed by Conder, but operating as a solicitors' firm until the multinational partnership rules receive the Queen's assent. Beharrell and Thompson are also members of Conder's international partnership in line with the Law Society's offshore partnership rules. Conder, which has an international network of offices, has said it intends to employ eight or more UK lawyers by the end of the year.

Three weeks after the resignation of Hampshire magistrate June Hanan, who wrote to the Lord Chancellor saying that she was unwilling to punish people for failure to pay the poll tax, a second magistrate, from Eastbourne, East Sussex, has announced his intention to quit the bench. Roland Hutchinson has been a JP for three years and although formerly a Labour borough councillor he maintains that he is quitting the bench for humanitarian, not party political reasons. The chairman of Eastbourne magistrates, John Godby, has persuaded Hutchinson to remain on the bench until after April when the first non-payment cases are likely to appear. "I feel my conscience simply will not permit me to enforce an iniquitous law with which I strongly disagree," Hutchinson said in the *Eastbourne Herald*. "I know for certain that many families will find it impossible to meet the new charges... I will find it hypocritical to be a party to any punishment meted out by the court." It seems likely that the intervention of the courts will be necessary to enforce the tax if England follows the pattern in Scotland, where an estimated one in three Glaswegians are expected to be served with warrants for non-payment of the tax.

Meanwhile BNP Mortgages Limited is showing faith in the ability of solicitors to earn enormous sums of money (and presumably to pay their poll tax). BNP Mortgages, a subsidiary of Banque Nationale de Paris, have come up with a mortgage plan for solicitors offering unusually high income multiples of four times primary income plus three times secondary income with a five-year interest deferral option. The scheme was devised on the premise that solicitors' incomes go up rapidly in their first five years after qualifying. Presumably BNP has not been reading the reports of the Redundancy Helpline set up by the Young Solicitors Group of the Law Society just before Christmas. Supply and demand for solicitors tends to follow a five-year cycle and it looks as though the slump in the property market and the prospect of recession in the economy is pushing demand down.

Some City lawyers seem to have been strangely affected by too many hours working on dry legal documents. Witness this announcement in Allen & Overy's newsletter: "Just to remind all keen male users of the Gymnasium that Tuesday lunchtimes between 12.00 and 2.30 are reserved exclusively for females. Judging from the recent attendance records, some of you obviously have doubts about your sexuality." But that should not detract from success of the firm's latest project — *The Allen & Overy Recipe Book*. To celebrate its sixtieth anniversary, all members have been invited to send in their favourite, most unusual, quicker, tastier or most exotic recipe. The partners' cook, Rosie Dennis, is collecting the entries, and proceeds from the book will go to the Children in Cities Appeal.

Scrivenor

Time to change the law on young rapists

This week a Bill will seek to scrap the legal presumption that boys under the age of 14 are incapable of having sexual intercourse

On September 5, 1989, newspapers reported that the police were hunting a rapist aged 12. He was said to be a member of a gang of youngsters who had raped a 29-year-old woman and attempted to rape another aged 17. It was not a unique case. In April 1986 it was reported that a four-year-old girl had been raped by two boys aged 11.

In its 1986 report, the National Association of Schoolmasters and the Union of Women Teachers expressed concern about the dangers of sexual assault that teachers faced from young boys. In 1980, the Criminal Law Revision Committee said, in its "Working Paper on Sexual Offences", that rapes committed by boys under 14 were "a matter of public concern".

It said: "Cases of this kind occur in what have come to be known as 'gang bangs'; that is, a series of sexual assaults by a group of youths on a girl. Such cases are very serious indeed as the girl often suffers severe emotional injury as well as physical harm."

As more comes to be known about child sexual abuse, it has become apparent that boys are, in some cases, responsible. Yet the extraordinary fact is that the perpetrators, if they are under 14, cannot be prosecuted for rape. The general rule in criminal cases is that a child aged over 10 and under 14

can be criminally liable provided that he understands that what he did was morally or legally wrong.

There are special rules for sentencing and dealing with people in this age group. But in the case of rape, a boy under 14 is exempt from liability. The most he can be charged with is indecent assault or being an accomplice to rape.

The legal authority for this is the case of Groombridge in 1836. It was considered in those days that boys under 14 were physically incapable of sexual intercourse and, therefore, of rape. That this is not the case is beyond argument, but the law has

never been changed to recognize it.

The Criminal Law Revision Committee said: "Many think it is a scandal that this should be the law" and recommended abolition of the exemption. This was reaffirmed in its final report published in 1984. But nothing has been done. No exemption exists in Scotland.

An opportunity for judicial disapproval of the exemption was presented in the civil case of L v K in 1985. The case involved affiliation proceedings in which the putative father was a boy aged 13 years and nine months at the time of conception. There was strong evi-

dence that he was the father but he invoked the legal presumption applied in rape cases and claimed that as he was presumed to be incapable of sexual intercourse, he could not be the father. The court refused to apply the rule and endorsed the view that the rule was absurd.

A Private Member's Bill, introduced by Sir William Shelton (Con, Stratham), will have its second reading this Friday. The Bill, which aims to tighten the law on kerb-crawling and to abolish the exemption from liability for rape of boys under 14, has government support and deserves support from all MPs.

Jennifer Temkin

• The author is a professor of law at the University of Buckingham.

01-481 4481

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

Continued on next page

The Complete Service For The Complete Lawyer

There are so many different opportunities for the capable lawyer, that it may be difficult to identify the most sensible and rewarding route to career fulfillment. Our service to lawyers considering a change of direction is complete; all of our consultants are qualified lawyers, with practical experience in both private practice

PRIVATE PRACTICE

- COMMERCIAL PROPERTY £27,000 - £70,000**
 - Planning, Development, Funding ► City, West End and Provinces
 - NQ-6 years PQE
- PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY £24,000 - £40,000**
 - Major City practice ► Accountants, Solicitors, Surveyors negligence
 - Excellent prospects ► NQ-4 years PQE
- COMPANY COMMERCIAL £Excellent**
 - Top ten practice ► Corporate Finance ► M&A ► MBOs/LBOs
 - 1 year PQE+

and industry and therefore offer the unique combination of insight and overview essential to successful career progression.

To discuss your future, contact Simon Lipson, Michael Silver or June Mesrié, all Solicitors, or Lucy Boyd, a Barrister.

INDUSTRY / COMMERCE

- COMMERCIAL LAWYER c. £30,000+ Car**
 - Blue chip commercial concern ► Company/commercial with EEC/ international bias ► Solicitor/Barrister ► 2 years PQE+
- MAJOR OIL COMPANY to £35,000**
 - Solicitor/Barrister ► Commercial experience ► Exceptional opportunity and prospects for career development ► 1-3 years PQE
- INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT BANK £Outstanding**
 - Capital Markets/Corporate Finance/Banking ► City background ► 1-3 years PQE

THE LEGAL RECRUITMENT SPECIALISTS

01-600 1690
24 HOURS

SOLICITORS

NORTHUMBRIAN WATER GROUP PLC

Northumbrian Water Group Plc, one of the largest companies in the North East, aims to improve the quality of life in the region whilst maximising the commercial opportunities available to widen the scope of its activities. Two important appointments have now been created within the Group Solicitor's department to contribute towards these aims.

COMPANY COMMERCIAL LAW package to £35K

Working closely with the Commercial Director and his staff the Commercial Solicitor will be responsible for the negotiating and drafting of contracts for the acquisition of new businesses, joint ventures, licensing agreements and intellectual property law. The Solicitor will also work closely with the Group Solicitor on Company Law matters.

For a Solicitor with at least 5 years' experience who has exceptional communication and teamworking skills the opportunity exists to make an impact on the future success of this new organisation.

WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL LAW package to £25K

As the front line legal adviser to the Water Services Company within the Group which is responsible for Water Supply, Sewage Treatment and disposal, the Solicitor will work closely with Operational Managers and Advisers. The Solicitor will need to develop a knowledge of the new Water Law and regulatory framework and apply it in a practical way to the business of the Company.

A Solicitor with a minimum of 3 years' experience within an environment subject to Statutory regulation will have the opportunity to make an important contribution to this key area of the Group's activities.

If you feel you can make your mark within this newly quoted Plc please send me a comprehensive C.V. to:

Ave Crabberton, C.P.C.R. Human Resource Consultants, Eldon House, Regent Centre, Gasforth, Newcastle NE3 3PW. Telephone (091) 213 0990

SHIPPING SOLICITOR

An opportunity with a substantial City Practice

Our client is amongst the leading firms specialising in commercial corporate and international law. It has offices worldwide and is recognised for the effectiveness of its litigation which is of the highest standard.

Its shipping section is a division of its litigation department and has an established reputation. To assist with its expansion it is now

looking for a solicitor who will have a contribution to make. You must therefore have at least two years relevant shipping experience in handling a varied caseload which will cover the complete range from cargo to collision.

The salary and comprehensive benefits package will reflect the importance and significance of this position.

INSURANCE LITIGATION SOLICITOR

A career progression in the City

Our client has a substantial insurance litigation client base. It handles high profile disaster work and significant insurance and reinsurance disputes. In addition, the department has a leading reputation for high quality general litigation. The objective is to achieve the best possible result for the client.

The growth of the department has produced an opportunity for a solicitor who may be recently qualified to join an experienced team. Candidates will have gained a good degree and will wish to further their career by joining one of the main players in this field. A first class salary is offered, together with a full range of benefits.

To apply for either of the above positions please write to or telephone Brian Wilks, Harding Management Consultants Ltd, 2 Queen Anne's Gate Buildings, Dartmouth Street, London SW1H 9BP. Telephone 01-222 7733. Fax 01-222 3445.

Harding
LEGAL RECRUITMENT
A MEMBER OF THE (SMCL) GROUP

CPCR
HUMAN RESOURCE
CONSULTANTS

Success through people!

01-481 4481

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

Continued on
next page

GENERAL COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

EC2 to £38,000

- MAJOR INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE
- PUBLIC AND PRIVATE CLIENT PORTFOLIO REPRESENTING MANY SECTORS OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE
- SEEKING SOLICITORS WITH UP TO 2 YEARS GENERAL COMMERCIAL LITIGATION EXPERIENCE

The department is one of the busiest and highest profile in the firm, dealing with a multiplicity of business sector clients, built up and retained over the years. Handling disputes of varying complexity, lawyers in this department are encouraged to maintain a general commercial portfolio with a bias towards several areas of specialism. Experience will be gained in:

- HIGH COURT LITIGATION
- ARBITRATIONS
- INDUSTRIAL TRIBUNALS
- A RANGE OF LESS COMMON PROCEDURES

Successful candidates should be highly motivated, have good recognised experience and be keen to meet the challenge of working in this friendly but busy department.

For further information either contact Gary Johnson or Deborah Nicol LLB on 01-836 9501 (evenings/weekends 058 283 2801) or send your c.v. to Llambias Legal, 410 Strand, London WC2R 0NS.

Llambias Legal, 410 Strand, London WC2R 0NS.

BIRMINGHAM 021-233 4421 • DUBLIN 608620 • EDINBURGH 031-225 7744 • GLASGOW 041-226 3301 • LONDON 01-836 9501 • MANCHESTER 061-236 1553

PUTTING THE RIGHT PEOPLE IN THE RIGHT JOBS

CORPORATE FINANCE

City to £57,750

- CORPORATE FINANCE LAWYERS 3/5 YEARS PQE
- THE CORPORATE FINANCE DEPARTMENT IS THE LARGEST IN THE FIRM
- THE EXPANSION OF THIS DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED BY RECRUITING LEADING LAWYERS IN VARYING FIELDS

As a major firm involved in the lucrative field of corporate finance work, the firm is now seeking corporate finance lawyers with proven ability and experience. The department is one of the most profitable within the firm and is internationally acknowledged for its work in mergers, acquisitions, listings and banking. The firm displays an impressive list of clients and is committed to providing the full range of legal services to clients within the financial, industrial and commercial sectors. Work will include the following:

- YELLOW BOOK WORK
- A VARIETY OF MERGERS AND ACQUISITIONS
- FLOTATIONS
- ADVISING ON "HIGH-PROFILE" BIDS

The firm is expanding considerably and there are accelerated partnership prospects for those of outstanding calibre.

For further information either contact Gary Johnson or Deborah Nicol LLB on 01-836 9501 (evenings/weekends 058 283 2801) or send your c.v. to Llambias Legal, 410 Strand, London WC2R 0NS.

Llambias Legal, 410 Strand, London WC2R 0NS.

BIRMINGHAM 021-233 4421 • DUBLIN 608620 • EDINBURGH 031-225 7744 • GLASGOW 041-226 3301 • LONDON 01-836 9501 • MANCHESTER 061-236 1553

PUTTING THE RIGHT PEOPLE IN THE RIGHT JOBS

Law Graduate/Barrister

...a trainee position in trade marks

c.£16,000
Central London

- The Wellcome Foundation Limited
- Major International Pharmaceutical Group
- UK Headquarters
- Annual turnover > £1,400m
- An Equal Opportunity Employer



Wellcome

The Wellcome Foundation Limited is a major international pharmaceutical group, with turnover in excess of £1,400m, which is engaged in the research, development, manufacture and marketing of ethical and over-the-counter products.

At our new Head Office in Euston Road, our Trade Marks Department currently has an opportunity for a trainee to get involved in the registration, renewal and protection of Group Trade Marks worldwide.

As a recently graduated Barrister or Solicitor, you will have some experience of the application of intellectual property law. However, as we provide first class training and encourage study for the Institute of Trade Marks examinations, graduates in other disciplines having a desire to become qualified in Trade Marks would also be considered.

Starting salary will be in the region of £16,000 for a Law Graduate and will reflect experience to date. Additionally, you can look forward to a range of benefits including 5 weeks' holiday, pension scheme, life assurance, Staff Education Scheme, BUPA and a subsidised restaurant.

Please write with details of academic achievement and, if applicable, work experience, to Mrs J.A. Sargent, The Wellcome Foundation Ltd., 160 Euston Road, London NW1 2BP.

LAURENCE
SIMONS
ASSOCIATES

Legal Recruitment

PRIVATE PRACTICE

ASSET FINANCE TO £35,000

Our client, a medium sized City practice with an international reputation in transport and commercial law, seeks a newly to two year qualified solicitor with experience in aircraft and/or shipping finance.

SENIOR LITIGATOR TO £40,000

This small practice based in the West End seeks a dynamic solicitor - at least five years qualified - to handle general commercial litigation. An early partnership is envisaged and the long term prospects are excellent.

MATRIMONIAL TO £30,000

A matrimonial lawyer with at least two years' post-qualification experience is sought by this friendly practice in WC1. The firm handles all aspects of family law and can offer an interesting range of excellent quality work.

COMMERCE/INDUSTRY

M&A LAWYER C.£35,000 + BENEFITS

This high profile international company based in North London currently requires an experienced lawyer to join its small legal team. The successful applicant will handle a range of corporate issues with an emphasis on mergers and acquisitions.

COMPANY SECRETARY C.£22,000 + BENEFITS

A junior company secretary is required to join the head office of this company based in Reading. The successful applicant is likely to be a qualified or part qualified A.C.S. and will undertake a full range of company secretarial activities.

BANKING C.£27,000 + BENEFITS

This blue chip merchant bank has an opportunity for a lawyer with at least one year's experience to handle commercial matters with a banking bias including asset trading, debt swaps and other treasury matters.

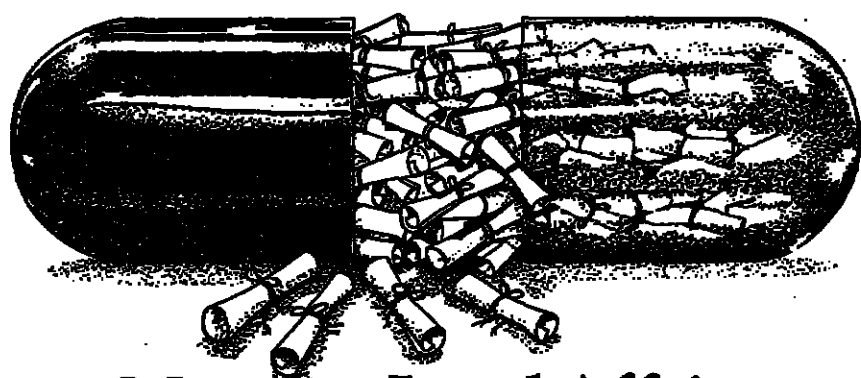
The above are only a small selection from the positions we are currently instructed to fill. If you would like to discuss any of these or any other aspect of your career, please telephone Laurence Simons, Anne Stephenson or Shona McDougall.

01-831 3270

(01-482 0349 evenings/weekends)

Or write to: Laurence Simons Associates, 33 John's Mews, London WC1N 2NS.

We are qualified lawyers with extensive experience in legal recruitment and all approaches are treated in strict confidence.

Manager Legal Affairs
Pharmaceutical Industry

A major international company, our client is an acknowledged world-leader in human and animal health pharmaceuticals. Efficiency, innovation and the highest levels of product quality are vital ingredients in their success. Investment of over £400 million annually in research and technology reflects their commitment to remain at the forefront of medical advance.

An opportunity has now arisen for a commercially-minded lawyer to join the management team of the company's substantial UK subsidiary, based in Hertfordshire. Reporting to the Managing Director, this high-profile role will involve liaison with all business divisions and will be responsible for the provision of important commercial advice. Specific areas of responsibility will include:

- Liaison with management to achieve corporate objectives
- Practical advice to sales/marketing and medical divisions to balance commercial and ethical demands
- Information for management on latest EEC legislative developments

- Membership of the Executive Committee
- Compliance of trading activities with applicable laws, codes of practice, etc.
- Negotiation and drafting of contracts and agreements and advice on general legal issues.

The ideal candidate will have at least two years' commercial experience and the ability to deal with complex legal issues. A desire to be involved in the pharmaceutical industry is important, although directly relevant experience is not pre-requisite.

The remuneration package is substantial, reflecting the seniority of the position and will include company car, bonus scheme and other company benefits.

Interested applicants should forward their C.V. (including details of current salary and benefits) to Liz Salter or Simon Hankey at Michael Page Legal, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LH (fax number - 01-831 2612). Details will be held in the strictest confidentiality and will not be forwarded to our client without express prior permission.

Michael Page Legal
International Recruitment Consultants

International Commercial Lawyer

£35-40k plus car

Ashford, Middlesex

Informix Software is one of the world's leading computer companies and with the increasing acceptance of UNIX, tremendous growth is expected for our advanced relational database management software and tools. This growth has led to the expansion of our International Legal Team.

Reporting to the Vice President, International/Legal, you will be directly responsible for legal matters relating to U.S. Federal and Foreign regulatory programmes, drafting of major software licences and contracts, International trademark registrations and ensuring compliance with copyright laws etc. You will also be heavily involved in all other legal matters arising from our worldwide operations, and will work as part of the International Legal Team, comprising the Vice President, European and Far East Contracts Managers, and an administrator.

Ideally, you will be a qualified solicitor or barrister with 1-2 years' experience (ideally "High Tech"

orientated) or a law graduate with at least 3 years' relevant legal experience in a high technology company. Alternatively, your commercial experience may have been gained in a practice with "High Tech" clients. Candidates must have a very strong command of the German language, including the ability to draft legal documents.

This represents a superb opportunity for a young lawyer to develop their career in an international commercial environment with a dynamic, fast growing company. Future career progression will be to replace the Vice President International/Legal who is on an expatriate assignment. We offer an attractive package of merit related salary, fully expensed car, Life Assurance and Portable Pension.

To join us please send your CV to:- Nick Foster, Informix Software Ltd, Informix House, Littleton Road, Ashford, Middlesex TW15 1TZ. Fax: 0784 249600.



BIRMINGHAM

City Centre

Salary Min £23,000 + Car + Benefits

We have been retained by one of the largest and fastest growing commercial practices in the Midlands. Our client is firmly committed to providing a "strength in-depth" professional service of the highest quality, whilst placing emphasis on the importance of maintaining personal contact between Lawyer and client.

This commitment has led to a vacancy for a SOLICITOR to join the COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT, advising on documentation and agreements for use in the UK, EEC and worldwide, the department being made up of teams of specialists. The ideal applicant will be at least 2-3 years qualified with some specialist experience of Intellectual Property and probably Computer Contracts.

Candidates should possess sound business sense and a desire to work within a lively and hardworking environment. Salary and benefits will be commensurate with age and experience and prospects for advancement within the firm are excellent.

For further information, please contact Helen Troth LLB (Hons) quoting ref: 90ML/569T at Daniels Bates Partnership Ltd., Daniels Bates Mall, Rational House, 64 Bridge Street, Manchester M3 3DT or telephone her on (061) 835 3311. YOUR APPLICATION WILL BE TREATED IN THE STRICTEST CONFIDENCE.

Daniels

Bates

Partnership
PROFESSIONAL RECRUITMENTLAMB BUILDING
CHAMBERS OF
MICHAEL BURKE-GAFFNEY QC

This large set of Chambers has vacancies for a Silk and one or more Juniors of at least 7 years call.

We undertake a wide range of general and specialist work, including development, building and land-related matters of all descriptions, professional negligence and personal injury, commercial, intellectual property, public law and serious crime.

Applications or informal enquiries (which will be treated in the strictest confidence) may be made to

The Head of Chambers,
Michael Burke-Gaffney QC
Lamb Building, Temple, London EC4Y 7AS
Telephone 01-353 6701

SOLICITOR

Australian Law Firm
with offices in
PAPUA NEW
GUINEA

seeks a motivated Solicitor (minimum two year after admission) for position of ASSOCIATE in Port Moresby. Work is commercial for demanding corporate clients. Salary equivalent £12,000 p.a. in local currency with LAX free benefits of £2K/10,000 after two years service.

Partnership offered thereafter in Brisbane. Australian apartment, car and four weeks annual leave (with home airfare) provided.

Reply with C.V. to C. Coody, 6A Elm Vista Road, Broadbeach, QLD Australia. Facsimile (61 75) 315 296 by the 15th March 1990.

LAW GRADUATES - TAX CONSULTANCY

LONDON AND NATIONWIDE TO £15,000

Quality as a Tax Consultant within this well-known international firm of Chartered Accountants. Working as part of a specialist team, projects will include tax planning for mergers, acquisitions and buy-outs and handling venture capital assignments.

You should demonstrate a keen interest in the financial world and strong interpersonal skills. Minimum 12 UCCA points and 2-1 degree essential.

Current opportunities exist in London, Birmingham, Reading, Leeds and Manchester.

To discuss in more detail, contact TERESA GASTON on 01-404 3155 (Days) or 01-853 1715 (Even) or send your CV to ALDERWICK PEACHELL AND PARTNERS LTD, 125 High Holborn, London WC1V 6QA. (Rec Conf).

LEGAL RESOURCES

LOCUMS

A fast and efficient service countrywide

01-405 4985

53 Doughty Street

London WC1N 2LS

Fax: 01-242 0208

ASA LAW NEEDS

LOCUM SOLICITORS

FOR LITIGATION VACANCIES IN ALL AREAS

01-236 4625

SOLICITOR

Excellent Salary + Partnership

Experience in Commercial field. Drawing up business contracts, commercial conveyancing and ability to deal with clients is essential. Urgent.

Please contact K. Gibson on 01-293 7555 or FAX your CV on 01-293 8228. Personal Services, 35 Watford Way, WY1 3JN.

LAWYER with experience of matrimonial and commercial law required for London office. Please write to 8222 0111.

WEST KENY Legal Services has an excellent reputation for providing a high calibre and very personal service more akin to a boutique law firm than a recruitment consultancy. We charge our clients far less than the market rate for our services which has gained us an extremely high profile amongst client base. If you are a high quality person wishing to advance your career we will give you the professional service you deserve. Please Mrs Handford, West Egham Legal 01 885 2002.

Legal Advisers

to £34,355

The Home Office is seeking barristers or solicitors with good academic qualifications to fill one or two posts in the small team of lawyers in Central London who form its Legal Advisers Branch.

Our work covers a wide variety of important Government business including responsibilities for the criminal law and the administration of criminal justice; public order and the prevention of terrorism; extradition; the police, prison, fire and probation services; race relations; immigration and nationality; sex discrimination; broadcasting; drugs; gaming; obscenity; elections and firearms control.

In these areas you will be required to provide legal advice to Ministers and senior civil servants; to assist in the preparation of Bills; brief Ministers and attend Parliament during a Bill's passage; and draft subordinate legislation. Much of the work has an international dimension involving foreign travel. In particular you may be required to attend proceedings before the institutions of the European Community and, in the area of human rights, before those of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg.

Often at the centre of affairs, your work will be unusually interesting and demanding, requiring a high level of legal ability and versatility. You will be given early responsibility for advising on a number of matters. Home Office work is performed in small teams - your contribution is vital.

HOME
OFFICE

Continued From
Previous Page

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

01-481 4481

CORPORATE FINANCE
TO £750 MILLION

Our Client, a leading City player, has recently established a team which is fast making a name for itself in innovative capital markets work worldwide.

With an outstanding reputation for the quality of its work and client base, our Client is looking for further high calibre lawyers to keep it head and shoulders above its competitors.

The successful applicants will be dynamic, ambitious lawyers with 2-4 years' experience of corporate law and the motivation and self assurance to take on a challenging and intellectually stimulating workload involving innovative and complex transactions.

The salary package, prospects and opportunities on offer (including global travel and a swift route to partnership) will not fail to appeal.

For further information, please contact **Alistair Dougall** or **Jonathan Brenner** on 01-405 6062 (01-958 1936 evenings/weekends) or write to **Quarry Dougall Recruitment**, 9 Brownlow Street, London WC1V 6JD.



QUARRY DOUGALL

UNITED KINGDOM • HONG KONG • NEW ZEALAND • AUSTRALIA

CORPORATE CHALLENGE
TO £50,000

Our Client, a well known and highly successful London firm, is continuing to enjoy enviable growth in its corporate and commercial practice and now seeks two further ambitious lawyers.

The corporate department handles a diverse range of work for PLCs and major private companies including mergers, acquisitions, disposals, takeovers, joint ventures, employment law and the full range of commercial agreements.

The successful candidates will ideally have 2-4 years' relevant experience, preferably in a City firm, and the confidence and ability to deal with clients at the highest level. The firm can offer quality work in a stimulating environment, a very competitive salary and excellent prospects.

For further information please contact **Alistair Dougall** on 01-405 6062 (01-773 3702 evenings/weekends) or write to him at **Quarry Dougall Recruitment**, 9 Brownlow Street, London WC1V 6JD.



QUARRY DOUGALL

UNITED KINGDOM • HONG KONG • NEW ZEALAND • AUSTRALIA

COMMERCIAL
SOLICITORS
FOR THE
CAYMAN ISLANDS

Major law firm in the Cayman Islands requires two Commercial Solicitors:

1. Applicants should have at least 2 years post-qualifying Commercial experience with a major firm preferably in the City.
2. Applicants should have 3-5 years post-qualifying experience, at least 2 of which should be with a Commercial department of a major firm in the City.

Attractive tax-free salary and benefits are offered for both positions.

Applicants should apply to **W.S. Walker & Company**, P.O. Box 265, Grand Cayman, attention: **W.S. Walker**, with curriculum vitae and photograph.

PROPERTY SECTOR
SOLICITOR

Qualified solicitor with 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

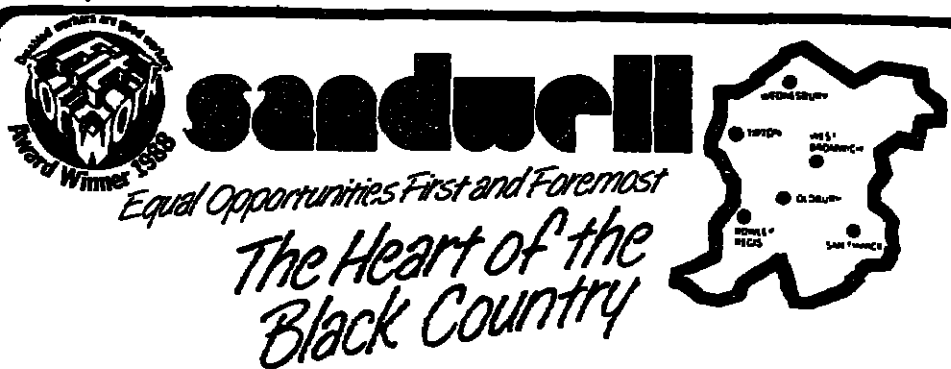
Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

Applicants should have a minimum of 10 years experience in the property sector. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the property department.

PUBLIC
APPOINTMENTS

Continued on Facing Page

ENVIRONMENTAL AND
CONSUMER PROTECTION DEPARTMENT
SENIOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
Salary £30,840 - £33,924

The Environmental and Consumer Protection Department is currently undergoing reorganisation. As a result, a new post of Senior Assistant Director has been created to enable the Department to move forward positively to meet the challenges of a radically changing environment.

The work of the department encompasses the traditional Environmental Health and Consumer Services activities as well as Cemeteries and Crematoria, Licensing and the Client function for: Street Cleansing, Refuse Collection and Civic Catering.

The post of Senior Assistant Director has specific responsibility for the Environmental Protection and Operational Services functions, with particular emphasis on 'green-issues' and corporate responsibility for Emergency Planning.

The successful candidate will have proven management experience, ideally within a multi-disciplinary environment, with the ability to control major resources cost effectively, experience of policy formulation and sound leadership qualities. She/he will be able to demonstrate considerable awareness of current and forthcoming environmental legislation.

The culture of the organisation is such that the Senior Assistant Director will be expected to make a positive contribution to the corporate working of the Authority and will be actively involved in the development of performance monitoring systems.

The post carries a lump sum car user allowance and relocation package where appropriate.

For an informal discussion about the post, please telephone the Director, Mr M. Mitchell, on 021-552-3871.

Information packages and application forms are available from: The Director of Environmental and Consumer Protection, Flash Road, Oldbury, Warley, West Midlands, B69 4AF. Telephone 021-552-3871 extn 6532.

Closing date: 2nd March 1990.

We are an equal opportunity employer. We positively welcome applications from the ethnic minorities, disabled people and women where they are under-represented in particular jobs. Canvassing of members of the authority will disqualify. Trade union membership is encouraged.

In appropriate circumstances, for jobs above Scale 3, a recruitment relocation package of up to £6,500 is available.

KINGSTON UPON THAMES
MAGISTRATES COURTS COMMITTEE
COURT CLERK

Salary £19,651 - £22,327
Plus £903 London Weighting

Applications are invited from Barristers/Solicitors for the above post. Applicants should be experienced and capable of taking all types of Courts without supervision. In addition they must be prepared to help in the administrative duties of the office.

Opportunities will be given to:

- broaden experience in all aspects of the operation and management of a busy court
- participate in the training of magistrates

The working environment is professional, friendly and pleasant. Flexible working arrangements apply and a generous leave allowance. A relocation package is available and a casual car user allowance is payable.

Application forms may be obtained from Mrs. A. Scott (Office Manager).

Kingston Magistrates Court
19 High Street,
KINGSTON UPON THAMES,
Surrey,
KT1 1JW.

J.A. DAVIS
Clerk to the
Magistrates Courts Committee.

Telephone: 01 546 5503

15 OLD SQUARE,
LINCOLN'S INN

The Chambers of the Hon. John Melville Williams Q.C., invites applications for tenancies from established practitioners (minimum of 5 years' call) in the following fields: commercial, construction, employment, environmental, personal injury and public law.

Applications (enclosing a C.V.) will be treated in strictest confidence and should be addressed to:

Philip Alden (Clerk to Chambers),
15 Old Square, Lincoln's Inn, London
WC2A 3UH by 2nd March 1990.

Legal
Opportunities

Co Comm
E24 Commercial £4000
W21 Employment £2000
L2000 Commercial £2000
N2100 Commercial £2000

Litigation
S2000 Commercial £2000
E2000 Criminal £2000
W2100 General £2000
N2100 Civil/Cr £2000

Private Client
W21 Commercial £4000
N2100 Commercial £2000
S2000 Commercial £2000
E2000 Commercial £2000

Selected from our 2500 current
institutions throughout the UK.
Established 1973

64 Abbey Road
Tel: 01-360 0081
01-360 0081

ONTARIO CANCER TREATMENT
AND RESEARCH FOUNDATION
NORTHEASTERN ONTARIO
REGIONAL CANCER CENTRECHIEF PHYSICIST
(CLINICAL)

The successful candidate will be responsible for developing and managing the medical physics program at this new regional cancer centre in Sudbury, Central Ontario, scheduled to open in July 1990. The centre anticipates seeing 1000 new radiation patients annually rising to 2200. It will be equipped with a simulator, superficial and cobalt machines and two 6-23 Mv dual energy accelerators. Dedicated CT planning time will be available.

Reporting to the Centre Director, the Chief Physicist will supervise a department consisting of 3 physicists as well as dosimetry, mould room, electronics shop and machine shop staff. Initial responsibilities include equipment commissioning and physics staff recruitment. The individual will be encouraged to develop a research program in medical physics. An academic appointment with Laurentian University, Sudbury and/or the University of Ottawa is offered for appropriately qualified individuals.

The applicant should have a Ph.D. in physics and at least 5 years relevant experience in medical physics with demonstrated management skills. Membership of the Canadian College of Physicists in Medicine or equivalent is preferred. Bilingualism (English/French) is a definite asset. In accordance with Canadian Immigration requirements preference will be given to Canadian citizens and permanent residents of Canada, but British applicants are encouraged to apply.

Remuneration is competitive and includes a geographic allowance. Relocation assistance with visa requirements and expenses is available. For further information, call 0101 705 522 0454 and reverse the charges. Applicants should send resume and names of three referees to:

Dr. Robert Corringham, M.B.
Director
NORTHEASTERN ONTARIO ONCOLOGY PROGRAM
41 Ramsey Lake Road
Sudbury, Ontario CANADA
P3E 5J1
Fax: (705) 522-4421

CALEDONIAN RESEARCH FOUNDATION/ROYAL
SOCIETY OF EDINBURGH
PERSONAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

The Royal Society of Edinburgh (RSE) invites applications for a limited number of prestigious post-doctoral Personal Research Fellowships to be funded by Caledonian Research Foundation (CRF) and the Scottish Education Department (SED).

CRF / RSE Fellowships will be for research in the biomedical sciences. SED / RSE Research Fellowships may be in any discipline.

These Fellowships are for research in Scottish Universities or Central Institutions and are available from October 1, 1990 for up to three years. Salaries will be in appropriate research grades. In Universities these are grades 1A and 2 (presently in the range £12,381-£20,469); corresponding Central Institution salaries apply to Fellowships held there. Applicants should normally be aged 32 or under on date of appointment, must possess a doctorate (or equivalent higher qualification) and be able to demonstrate outstanding ability for independent research.

Further details and application forms are available from the Research Fellowships Secretary, The Royal Society of Edinburgh, 22-24 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2PQ, and applicants MUST indicate to which scheme they are applying. Application forms must be returned by March 30, 1990.

هكذا من الأصل

HORIZONS

From smuggling to tax evasion

The London headquarters of Her Majesty's Customs & Excise, which has 26,500 staff throughout Britain and Northern Ireland, is at New King's Beam House, overlooking the Thames near Blackfriars.

It has a fascinating history and its responsibilities have grown from the collection of duties on goods entering and leaving the country to include new forms of revenue, such as excise tax in the 17th century and VAT in the 20th. Customs & Excise has always had to adapt and recruitment practice has recently been under review. As well as taking a new approach with careers talks and videos for schools, libraries and exhibitions, senior executive officer Frank Dover is considering the impact of demographic changes. "We can no longer rely on our traditional intake of school-leavers," he says. Numbers are going down, increasing competition for suitably qualified staff.

Dover is aware that the image and recruitment methods of Customs & Excise did not reach a wider range of older, experienced potential staff. "Now we are looking at new ways of working: full-time, part-time, home working and job-sharing." Future possibilities include improved conditions for mothers of young children. "We are checking costs and benefits," he says. "Nursery, for instance, are needed but not necessarily at the workplace, so

A career in Customs & Excise is far from dull, reports

Bernardine Coverley



In the office: Perryman catches up on casework at headquarters

other childcare facilities are being considered as well." Once recruited, staff have the option of remaining in a preferred section or moving through the departments. Although the customs officer remains the better known aspect, VAT is now the primary area of work for about half the staff. There are 900

regional offices including about 90 VAT offices. Meeting the public involves communication skills and a grasp of accounting transactions.

It is not unusual to spend a few years in VAT and then move into an area of work that appears to be very different, such as import control. A declaration must be submitted for all goods entering the country and these must be checked to ensure the correct amount of duty has been paid. At sea ports the crew sign clearance papers and cargoes are selected at random and opened to verify contents. Confidence, tact and alertness are essential for a job that includes looking for hidden differences between descriptions and actual goods.

Certain items entering the country require Department of Trade and Industry licences and some technical equipment needs export licences, particularly high technology goods that could be adapted for military purposes.

Promotion exercises are held every year and there is every opportunity to move up the ladder, with appropriate in-service training. Executive grades are required to be mobile geographically and may be offered a move to different parts of the country.

The specialist divisions welcome officers with wide experience within the service. These range from "investigation" - working on serious frauds or smuggling offences - to "training", which involves providing



In the field: Chris Perryman visits a scrap yard to check the accounts as part of his job as a VAT inspector

vocational courses for new staff and management courses for executive officers.

Chris Perryman, 29, joined Customs & Excise in 1978 and has worked his way up through several areas to his present post in the VAT office at Basildon, Essex.

"I was in college and wasn't sure what I wanted to do, then I had the chance to join Customs and Tilbury

Docks. I liked the work and when my A level results came through I was promoted to executive officer grade. First I was assistant officer in a specialized baggage post, performing the sort of role that everyone associates with Customs. I could meet people and there was more to it than just being the man in the red or green channel. I was also dealing with

freight, boarding ships to check clearance papers and patrolling. "As a customs officer I worked all the way down the Thames and took part in surveillance exercises - Tilbury is a local 'main risk' area for drugs coming in from West African ports."

The VAT man or woman needs confidence and an easy manner, as much of the work is to help traders

to understand a system that may seem just another obstacle to bookkeeping. "You have to understand how the chap operates his business and how the accounts work," Perryman says. "It may be a builder or an accountant and not everyone is an expert bookkeeper. Some people I may visit two or three times a year."

At the lowest executive grade, a VAT officer would be responsible for visits to four or five businesses a week. Leading companies, such as Ford, are assigned a full-time employee from the local VAT office. Perryman combines visits to two or three large-scale traders a week with supervising staff, training and office administration.

"Eventually I may move back into Customs or come up into the City headquarters and maybe get involved in the policy-making," he says. "It's very flexible; although obviously it depends on what vacancies are available at the time. It's not just one little niche."

Administrative grades are recruited locally. Entry requirements are GCSE or written test. Information from Jobcentres and Customs & Excise offices. Executive officers are recruited through the Civil Service Commission. Entry requirements are a degree or at least two A levels, plus written test and interview. Information from HM Customs & Excise, Personnel Division A, 5 New King's Beam House, 22 Upper Ground, London SE1 9PZ.

01-481 1066

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

Continued on next page

DEVON FAMILY PRACTITIONER COMMITTEE (Family Health Services Authority designate)

SENIOR MANAGEMENT POSTS

The management arrangements are being re-organised to meet new and exciting challenges in the development of primary care throughout the country. The following new first and second level posts have been created:

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE: (Spine point 11, £26,640) (Readvertisement). To head up the accounts function, negotiate new contractual payments, ensure value for money and lead the income generation initiative. This senior officer must be analytical, forward thinking and a staff developer.

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS: (Spine point 15, £22,620) (Readvertisement). Heading up the operational affairs of the FPC, including registration, this manager will be responsible for the majority of services within the FPC, including personnel, quality assurance, training and public relations. The postholder will have final determination and initiative.

RESEARCH AND INFORMATION MANAGER: (Spine point 16, £21,750). To be responsible to the Director of Planning for co-ordinating all information functions within the FPC and leading the information strategy. Responsible for hardware and software development in the I.T. programme. The postholder will develop new areas of research in the primary care field as a basis for new programmes and developments.

All applicants should be appropriately qualified and ready to accept the challenge of developing better services for health care in the 1990's.

For further details telephone Exeter (0392) 75242, Ext. 203 or ring Eddie Herbert, General Manager for an informal discussion.

Curriculum vitae, giving two referees, returnable to the General Manager, Devon F.P.C., Cecil Boyall House, Southmead East, Exeter EX1 1RB.

Closing date: 25th February, 1990.

UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL FACULTY OF LAW

As part of a major planned development in Law applications are invited for the following posts:

Senior Lecturer: Initial salary £21,489 or £22,176 per annum on a scale rising to £24,285 per annum. This is a new post. From a strong research base the appointee will be expected to make a substantial contribution to the research output of the Faculty and to participate fully in its further development.

NAAS Lecturer: Initial salary within the range £10,458 - £20,469 per annum on the Lecturer A or B scale as appropriate. Whilst there is no formal age limit, in accordance with the terms of the initiative to bring younger staff into the profession, it is likely that preference will be given to candidates at an early stage in their careers.

Lecturer: Initial salary within the range £10,458 - £12,875 per annum on the Lecturer A scale. This post will be offered for three years in the first instance and is likely to be renewed thereafter.

These posts are not restricted to applicants with any specific research or teaching interests but, within the overall set of appointments, the Faculty would particularly welcome applications from those with an interest in any of the broad fields of commercial/professional law, the law of the EEC, property law, family or welfare law.

Informal enquiries to Professor Peter Rowe (051-794 2805). Applications, by cv, with the names of three referees, should be received not later than 9 March 1990, by The Director of Staffing Services (AS), The University, P.O. Box 147, Liverpool, L69 3BX, from whom further particulars may be obtained. Quote ref. RV/608/7T.

An Equal Opportunity Employer

WOLVERHAMPTON HEALTH AUTHORITY

The Royal Hospital and Eye Infirmary ASSOCIATE UNIT GENERAL MANAGER

Senior Managers Pay Point 14 - £23,520pa

The Authority operates a Car Lease Scheme

A key post exists within our Acute Unit Management structure with responsibility for strategic, tactical and operational management processes within the Unit.

As well as being a member of the Unit Management Board, processing the 'core' business of the Unit, you will also ensure business and administrative support to the Clinical Directorates.

To be successful you will need a proven record of 'management effectiveness' demonstrating achievements and responsibility in your career to date.

For information package and application form please contact: Paul Barnett on 0902 307721.

For an informal discussion please call: Greg Pike, Unit General Manager, on 0902 732235 ext 2551.

CASPE LIMITED

ONE SENIOR MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT AND TWO JUNIOR CONSULTANTS

CASPE Ltd. is a small but fast growing specialist health service consultancy based at the King's Fund in West London. We have expertise in several fields that are important today, including business planning, capital asset effectiveness, information strategies, contracting, quality measures and DRGs. We have contracts to help over 30 units prepare for the 1991 changes.

We need to recruit at least one senior consultant and two more junior team members immediately. They will be offered excellent conditions of employment and rewarding contracts; they will already be well qualified and have managerial or financial experience, at least some of which will be with health care organisations; they will be prepared to work extremely hard and will enjoy operating at varied levels within customers' organisations.

Telephone enquiries for more information may be made to one of the three CASPE directors shown below. Potential applicants offering appropriate skills or experience, who wish to share in the growth of the 11 year old CASPE group should call James Coles, Frank Jackson or Iden Wickings on 01-229 8739.

SURREY FAMILY PRACTITIONER COMMITTEE DEVELOPMENTS MANAGER

GRADE 6 : Salary up to £14,934 inclusive of London Weighting

(To be re-graded to senior managers pay)

An opportunity has arisen for an enthusiastic and self motivated individual to join our dynamic management team to evaluate and implement the changes in the primary health care services. Surrey FPC is situated in Surbiton and is one of the largest and most complex FPCs in the country.

You will be responsible for developing and maintaining the FPC's role in monitoring GP prescribing, the Indicative Drugs budget scheme and the GP Fund Holding Scheme. The post involves working closely with FPC medical and other prescribing advisers, liaising with and visiting all appropriate GP practices and maintaining a computerised information system.

Applicants should have a high level of communication skills, a knowledge of NHS systems and computer experience. The post would suit a Graduate or other suitably professionally qualified person or a person studying for professional qualifications.

For an informal discussion regarding this post please contact Anne Sutcliffe, General Manager on Ext. 256.

Further information and job description available from Jan Burrell, Personnel Officer, Surrey FPC, 187 Ewell Road, Surbiton, Surrey, KT6 6AU. Tel. 01 399 5133 Ext. 254.

Closing Date: Friday, 16th March, 1990.

Eastman Dental Hospital Special Health Authority

GENERAL MANAGER

c £38,000 DGM 3

This London postgraduate health authority wishes to appoint a General Manager with proven professional qualifications to lead its flagship in dentistry into the new NHS reforms. Trust status has been applied for.

Relevant professional qualifications and substantial experience at top management level are essential.

The starting salary is £238,000 and in addition performance related pay may be earned.

Further information may be obtained from the Personnel Manager (tel/ 01 837 3646 ext. 2003). Applications to Mr J Michael Edwards, CBE, QC, Chairman of the SHA, Eastman Dental Hospital, Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8LD by 1st March 1990.

LONDON REGIONAL PASSENGERS' COMMITTEE (readvertisement) PART-TIME RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Interested in working for the transport consumer movement? LRPC, the London passengers' watchdog body, has a vacancy for a part-time (15 hours per week) research assistant to help with analysis of data and surveys of service quality. Hands-on experience of micro-computers would be useful.

Salary scale (under review) £3,752 - £4,433, including London Weighting.

For further details and an application form, contact LRPC, Golden Cross House, 8 Duncannon Street, London WC2N 4JF (01-639 1898).

PUBLIC FINANCE



Wexham Park Hospital

SLOUGH, BERKSHIRE

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

Salary £28,620 per annum

Plus Performance Related Pay.

Lease Car and relocation expenses available.

An enthusiastic and imaginative Accountant is required to join the Management Team of Wexham Park Hospital in Slough.

This is an exciting opportunity to take charge of financial activity in a busy District General Hospital at a time of major change. Wexham Park is a modern 900 bed hospital which provides services in all the major specialties and has many first class facilities. It is about to launch a major development of information systems and become involved in new management initiatives within the N.H.S. The appointment of a Director of Finance is key to the continuing development of Management within the hospital.

The Director will work closely with the General Manager and with Consultants, will contribute financial expertise to decision making at Board level and play a leading part in investment and business planning and in the development of contractual arrangements with purchasing authorities. The Director will be actively involved in the Resource Management Initiative.

Potential candidates may contact Mr Chris Burke for an informal discussion. Further information may be obtained from the Personnel Department, Wexham Park Hospital, Slough, SL2 4HL Telephone (0753) 34567.

Closing date Friday 9th March.

EAST ANGLIAN REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

PROJECT MANAGER

Salary: £22,620pa

The newly formed Capital Project and Estate Department is looking for enthusiastic people to join their Project Management for the East Anglian Region, covering Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire.

Project Managers are responsible to the Chief Project and Estate Manager for a number of Major Projects throughout the Region above £1m. Each Project Manager will be assisted by an Assistant Project Manager.

Applicants from any discipline will be expected to have experience in planning and/or Building/Estate Management.

For an informal discussion please contact: Mr John Yates, Chief Project and Estate Manager, on extension 232. Application form and job description from: The Personnel and Administration Directorate, Union Lane, Cambridge CB4 1RP. Tel 0223 61212 ext 368. Closing date: February 22, 1990.

LEGAL

Continued on next page

Principal Assistant Solicitor

Local Salary Grade ED 4/5 (PO points 41-48) £18,225 - £21,510

Free Lease Car (Benchmark Sierra GL)

Generous Relocation Expenses

Practising Certificate & Professional Subscription

The Council is looking for an experienced Solicitor to lead the legal services section of the Chief Executive's Department. Applicants will need to demonstrate experience relevant to the work of a shire district council, with particular emphasis on planning law and practice and other areas involving or leading to advocacy.

This is an ideal opportunity for an ambitious person to profit from experience and gain advancement to a senior post, and at the same time, benefit from living and working in one of the most beautiful and sought after areas of the country.

Application form, job description and further particulars are available from the Personnel Section, EDDC, The Council Offices, Knowle, Sidmouth, Devon EX10 8HL. Tel (0395) 616551 ext 354. For an informal discussion on any aspect, contact Peter Knighting in the Chief Executive's Department on ext 312.

Closing date: 2nd March 1990.

This council has adopted a positive policy in respect of the employment of disabled people.



EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Looking to an explosive future

liott has much yet to give. He has surely conquered any doubts he



But in McColgan, Sly, Lynch, Cahill and Murray we have competition and talent at a range of distance events. These should go on, but their high standards ought to

Elliot said he would take Peter Elliott, the Commonwealth champion, 1,500 metres champion, over 800 metres in the East German match.

"Elliot is the in-form middle-distance runner in the world at the moment," Boyle said yesterday, "and that's one of the reasons Tom wanted to run. It was his decision to run, but

Some of Burton's clients received match tickets before the burglary occurred. However he is still seeking tickets to replace those stolen. He said last week "I am determined not to let my clients down."

Wood's statement follows the burglary nine days ago at the Gloucester offices of Mike Rye-

[illegible]

Bacher is convinced his course is correct



international administrators. We intend to maintain such contacts on the belief that eventually justice will prevail — and a non-racial springbok team, picked on merit, will take to the field in official Test matches.

"Both Greg and Trevor have made a difference to the way I'm living this year," he said. Hughes, the leading fast bowler for Australia this season, underwent surgery on Monday for a suspected torn ACL.

هكذا من الأصل

Boxing's rulers are left in a void

By Srikanth Sen, Boxing Correspondent

Boxing was in turmoil yesterday after the decision of the World Boxing Council (WBC) and the World Boxing Association (WBA) to declare the world heavyweight title bout between Mike Tyson and James "Buster" Douglas a void contest.

Tyson was knocked out in the tenth round in Tokyo on Sunday, but the WBC and WBA ruled that as Douglas had been given a long count of 13 seconds by Octavio Meyran Sanchez, the referee, in the eighth round — confirmed by the videotape — both boxers had a case and there should be no champion until the two bodies had discussed the matter on February 20.

However, boxing experts condemned the decision and maintained that Douglas should be declared the champion, regardless of what action the WBC and WBA might take. Nor were the television

audience and boxing analysts in any doubt that Douglas's knockout was the more convincing. As Dana Rinehart, mayor of Douglas's home town of Columbus, Ohio, said: "The man won fair and square. He's won it in the eyes of the world."

The British Boxing Board of Control (BBBC), whose chairman, Sir David Hopkin, is the vice-president of the WBC, voiced its criticism yesterday. John Morris, the secretary of the board, said: "We have faxed a letter on behalf of the chairman, Sir David Hopkin, and the vice-chairman, Nipper Read, to the WBC and WBA expressing that they and the board are very concerned that there should be any suggestion that the referee's decision should be anything other than final. We asked them to consider the consequences and damage to the sport as a result of any move to change a referee's decision."

The rules of the BBBC and the European Boxing Union (EBU) state that the referee's decision is final. The EBU rule goes further by stating that it is "without appeal by the interested parties, in all cases".

Since boxing is a sport where all measurements are exact and boxers are having to accept controversial decisions all the time, the decision by the two bodies will be seen to have been taken with unbecomingly haste on the protest of Don King, who backs Tyson and promotes his bouts.

Bob Arum, a rival American promoter, said: "Last night should have been one of the greatest nights in the history of boxing. Everybody felt good about the sport. To even suggest to take away the title from the kid, who had prepared for the fight and beat the invincible champion, is an absurdity."

Alex Wallau, a respected

boxing analyst employed by ABC Television, was equally forthright. He said: "The controversy to me is the most absurd abuse of power from the WBA and WBC that I've seen, and I've seen a lot. I think they can and will deny Buster Douglas his victory and will order a rematch. Tyson will probably knock out Douglas in the rematch."

"Mistakes happen all the time. But the referee's count is official," Wallau added. "The round was over. It would have been one thing if it was two minutes into the round and the guy got time to recover. There's no doubt Buster Douglas could've gotten up any time after the count of four."

While the WBC investigates the "long count", the leading contenders, Evander Holyfield, George Foreman, Razor Ruddock, Michael Dokes and others, were asking: "Whom do I fight if I want to be champion?"

Before leaving Tokyo, Douglas said that as far as he was concerned he was the champion and would be defending against Holyfield, the No. 1 challenger. He would consider a rematch with Tyson only after meeting Holyfield.

Since Tyson's defeat had put in doubt his \$13 million defence against Holyfield on June 18 in Atlantic City, Holyfield's camp was sure about its next move. It could see a legal nightmare looming if the two world bodies insisted on going with King.

"As far as we can tell, we have no idea what will happen," Kathy Duva said for Main Events-Monitor, Holyfield's promoter. "There are so many possibilities, it boggles the mind."

"The WBA has signed agreements with Tyson and Douglas, binding the winner to fight Holyfield next," she added. "If they back down on that decision, we have a lawsuit. We have an agreement to fight for the world heavyweight championship. We purposely didn't put in anyone's [the WBC, WBA or IBF, or all three] champion. We don't want to fight this out in court. We're supposed to make the fighters rich, not the lawyers."



Fallen hero: Tyson is caught in sombre mood as he arrives back in New York yesterday

Rooney appeals to Tyson to work with him again

New York (Agencies) — Kevin Rooney, the former trainer of Mike Tyson, yesterday linked the heavyweight champion's knockout by James "Buster" Douglas to the boxer's association with the promoter, Don King, and his associates.

"He should leave King and get back to me," Rooney said. "Mike had no fire in his eyes, he didn't come to fight. You have to place the blame somewhere and they're the trainers [Jay Bright and Aaron Snowell], so they're the guys you blame."

Rooney was Tyson's trainer from 1981 until 1988 and was in his corner for the first 35 of his 38 professional fights. Tyson dismissed Rooney and his manager, Bill Cayton, after they had publicly criticized Tyson's lifestyle.

"Sure, Mike has to take most of the blame, but they didn't do their job," Rooney said. "If they were looking out for my fighter, he would have been in better condition — or the fight never would have gone on."

"Don King is trying to get

the WBA, WBC and anybody else to say it was a long count so he can get the title back," Rooney said. "Mike has been getting screwed left and right. He should leave King and get back to me."

"The problem with King and all them is they let him [Tyson] call his own shots. He went over there just three weeks before the fight, then he gets knocked down in training [by Greg Page] and he takes five days off. Five days off."

"These guys Bright and Snowell aren't trainers, they're gofers. Mike needed somebody who could look into his eyes and find out if he still had the fire to fight."

"At least he's proven now that he takes a good shot. Some people doubted he could do that. Douglas nailed him continually, with good punches, hard punches. Mike took them until he couldn't take it anymore and started looking for a place to go."

Meanwhile, Tyson, accompanied by Don King, returned to New York in defiant mood, although he admitted he had fought badly. "I've lost before," he said.

It's no big deal," said Tyson, whose last defeat was as an amateur in 1984 when he failed to get into the United States team for the Los Angeles Olympics.

Tyson added: "I've always come back from a loss. I feel great. I have a slight swelling in my eye and as soon as it goes down I'm ready to go back to training. I'll be prepared better next time."

Tyson said: "It was a bad decision. He [the referee] made a bad mistake."

Douglas, in Chicago yesterday on his way home to Columbus, Ohio, said that he won the title fair and square. "I was never hurt," he said, referring to his knock-down in the eighth round. "I followed the count. I picked up the count immediately."

He said he almost knocked Tyson out in the ninth round, and the time he took getting to his feet in the eighth was simply a matter of "catching my balance. The public itself will recognise me as the heavyweight champion of the world. They recognize that the better man won..."

Welsh four passed fit

All four Welsh players in doubt because of injury for the rugby union international against England at Twickenham on Saturday have been declared fit to play (Owen Jenkins writes).

The left wing, Arthur Emyr (strained leg muscle), the loose-head prop, Mike Griffiths (ankle injury), the second row, Andrew Allen (shoulder), and the No. 8, Mark Jones (dead leg), passed fitness tests under the supervision of Tudor Jones, the Welsh Rugby Union physiotherapist, before last night's training session at Sophia Gardens, Cardiff.

The injuries that caused the greatest concern were those to Emyr and Griffiths. Neither played for his club on Saturday. Both Allen and Jones led the field in their respective games on Saturday.

The second row, Robert Norster, who has been out all season through injury, was again drafted in to help with lineout moves and technique.

The Welsh forwards, along with the captain and scrum-half, Robert Jones, will have a scrummaging session tonight and the whole team will have a final run-out together in Cardiff tomorrow afternoon.

Turkey in job offer to Piontek

Ankara (Reuters) — Turkey has made an offer to the Danish national coach, Sepp Piontek, to take over its national squad, a Turkish Football Federation official said yesterday.

"I can confirm that Piontek has been approached to take over as the technical director of the Turkish national team," the official said.

He said that Piontek, a former West German international, who has said he will not renew his contract when it expires in June, was contacted by telephone several days ago by the federation chief, Senes Erzik.

It is likely that Piontek, who guided Denmark to the 1986 World Cup finals in Mexico, and two European championship finals, would meet Turkish football officials in West Germany later this week to discuss terms.

Mustafa Denizli, the former Turkey coach, who led the national team to third place in their World Cup qualifying group for Italy, is working with the Aachen, West Germany, club.

Piontek said later he planned to fly to Istanbul to sign a contract immediately after finalizing terms.

Macari and Hillier are found guilty of placing football bets

By Dennis Siggy

Brian Hillier, the chairman of Swindon Town, and Lou Macari, who left the Wiltshire club last summer to manage West Ham United, were yesterday found guilty of betting on their team to lose an FA Cup tie at Newcastle United in January 1988.

After a hearing at Lancaster Gate lasting more than 3½ hours, an FA commission suspended Hillier from football for six months from February 26, fined Macari £1,000 and Swindon £7,500.

Tom Finn, the secretary of West Ham, promptly issued a statement saying that Macari's position at Upton Park was unaffected and that he would be in charge for tomorrow's Littlewoods Cup semi-final against Oldham Athletic at Boundary Park.

The three-man commission, headed by Geoff Thompson, the chairman of the FA Disciplinary Committee, and including Barry Bright (Kent) and Noel White, a director of Liverpool, listened to evidence under FA rule 26a4 which forbids officials, players and managers to bet on any match other than an authorized or recognized pools.

The accusation related to a cup-tie at Newcastle that Swindon lost 5-0. It was alleged that Newcastle, then in the first division, were 13-8 odds-on favourites to win the tie and that the bet of £6,500 at a racetrack on the day of the match produced a winning cheque for £4,000. At the time Lionel Smart, a Swindon director and vice-president of

the FA, was chairman of the FA Challenge Cup committee.

Dave King, the former secretary of Swindon, said as he left the hearing: "This is a very sad day for Swindon Town football club. As far as I am concerned the verdict vindicates an awful lot of good people who work at Swindon Town."

Five directors of Swindon attended the hearing, Gary Herbert, the vice-chairman, David Alderton, Nick Arkell, Cecil Green and Smart, plus Vince Farrar, the chief accountant, and George Sims, the former chief steward. Macari was accompanied by Charles King, the West Ham solicitor, and Finn.

It was made clear afterwards that Hillier's suspension will not preclude him from attending matches, which could include a Wembley final if Swindon get through two more stages of the Zenith Data Systems competitions.

Graham Kelly, the chief executive of the FA, announcing the verdicts, said the commission regarded the offences as serious and said the costs would be shared three

ways. He added: "We have not seen any evidence of widespread abuse of that rule."

Finn said: "It is apparent from the punishment imposed on Mr Macari that his minimal involvement in respect of these matters was accepted by the FA. For the past six weeks Mr Macari and his family have been subjected to intense media pressure at times amounting to harassment."

"Now that the matter is behind him we trust and hope he will be allowed to return to a normal life and concentrate on his duties as manager of West Ham, commencing appropriately with the Littlewoods Cup semi-final."

There is still a possibility of a Football League hearing involving Swindon. The club has been asked to answer questions in relation to alleged unauthorized payments to players, contrary to rules.

Whatever the governing bodies do the record books will show that Douglas was heavyweight champion, even if officially it was for only a week.

The argument over technology remains: should it be accepted, where available, as intervening evidence for decision making. In horse racing, stewards can change the result of a race when inquiry discloses an irregularity during it, but that is no different from disqualification in an Olympic race.

My opinion would be, on balance, that it is a disadvantage to try to employ technology in a moving sport where instant decision is necessary from moment to moment. American football uses television replays, but American football is little more than a sequence of set pieces.

If we want to avoid long counts in boxing, then perhaps there should be a buzzer, as in *Mastermind*. It is less complicated, however, to live with the human error to which Meyran admits.

What television demonstrates in association football, and even in cricket, is that those whom we entrust to make the decisions are right far more often than they are wrong. When they are deliberately wrong, as has been seen in World Cup or European Cup football from time to time, then we are dependent on the integrity of the governing bodies to do something about it. That is another matter.

There is still a possibility of a Football League hearing involving Swindon. The club has been asked to answer questions in relation to alleged unauthorized payments to players, contrary to rules.

Whatever the governing bodies do the record books will show that Douglas was heavyweight champion, even if officially it was for only a week.

The argument over technology remains: should it be accepted, where available, as intervening evidence for decision making. In horse racing, stewards can change the result of a race when inquiry discloses an irregularity during it, but that is no different from disqualification in an Olympic race.

My opinion would be, on balance, that it is a disadvantage to try to employ technology in a moving sport where instant decision is necessary from moment to moment. American football uses television replays, but American football is little more than a sequence of set pieces.

If we want to avoid long counts in boxing, then perhaps there should be a buzzer, as in *Mastermind*. It is less complicated, however, to live with the human error to which Meyran admits.

What television demonstrates in association football, and even in cricket, is that those whom we entrust to make the decisions are right far more often than they are wrong. When they are deliberately wrong, as has been seen in World Cup or European Cup football from time to time, then we are dependent on the integrity of the governing bodies to do something about it. That is another matter.

My opinion would be, on balance, that it is a disadvantage to try to employ technology in a moving sport where instant decision is necessary from moment to moment. American football uses television replays, but American football is little more than a sequence of set pieces.

If we want to avoid long counts in boxing, then perhaps there should be a buzzer, as in *Mastermind*. It is less complicated, however, to live with the human error to which Meyran admits.

What television demonstrates in association football, and even in cricket, is that those whom we entrust to make the decisions are right far more often than they are wrong. When they are deliberately wrong, as has been seen in World Cup or European Cup football from time to time, then we are dependent on the integrity of the governing bodies to do something about it. That is another matter.

My opinion would be, on balance, that it is a disadvantage to try to employ technology in a moving sport where instant decision is necessary from moment to moment. American football uses television replays, but American football is little more than a sequence of set pieces.

If we want to avoid long counts in boxing, then perhaps there should be a buzzer, as in *Mastermind*. It is less complicated, however, to live with the human error to which Meyran admits.

END COLUMN

Referees must always be right



There is an affectionate story, told against himself by Denis Howell, of the afternoon he was refereeing a match at Chelsea. Jimmy Greaves, that adolescent magician, evidently disagreed with several decisions by Howell, and said so. "Look here, young man," Howell said, thinking he would paternally put the youngster in his place, "who do you think is refereeing this match?"

"I don't know," young Jim replied chirpily, "but it certainly isn't either of us."

Mike Tyson and Don King have their doubts, too, about Octavio Meyran Sanchez's performance in Tokyo but unless sporting competitors play to the whistle, so to speak, there is no point in games of any kind. Retrospective judgement on the result of an event is an absurdity, if only because of the infinity of possibilities it raises for alteration.

Imagine watching Liverpool defeat Everton in last season's FA Cup final, going home, and waking up on Sunday to discover that Lancaster Gate had reversed the result. Did FIFA contemplate that when Hurst was awarded the controversial goal in the 1966 World Cup final or when Maradona handled against England in 1986? Of course not.

Technology does sport no service

Sport is not better off for the revealing techniques of television, but worse off. Technology removes, albeit with delay, the arguments that are the very essence of sport. Photo-finish cameras remove argument in sprint races. Excellent, you may say. Yet the fun begins when there is scope, which occasionally happens, to disagree with the photograph.

Sport is, or should be, a lesson in life. Tyson and his manager/agent, King, have just learnt an enormous lesson. That sometimes somebody makes an error, never mind that it is inadvertent, which alters the course of your life.

When I was 18, I won an inter-school 100 yards. The opposition claimed I had the benefit of a false start. When subsequently I won the 200 yards by at least a foot, our master in charge diplomatically declared it a dead heat. That decision did me more good than any photo-finish camera would have done: certainly as a preparation for Fleet Street.

Rematch the only proper decision

It would be grotesque if the World Boxing Council and World Boxing Association were to do anything other than to order a rematch between Tyson and Douglas, whether or not Tyson is contracted to fight Holyfield, who should receive compensation.

Whatever the governing bodies do the record books will show that Douglas was heavyweight champion, even if officially it was for only a week.

The argument over technology remains: should it be accepted, where available, as intervening evidence for decision making. In horse racing, stewards can change the result of a race when inquiry discloses an irregularity during it, but that is no different from disqualification in an Olympic race.

My opinion would be, on balance, that it is a disadvantage to try to employ technology in a moving sport where instant decision is necessary from moment to moment. American football uses television replays, but American football is little more than a sequence of set pieces.

If we want to avoid long counts in boxing, then perhaps there should be a buzzer, as in *Mastermind*. It is less complicated, however, to live with the human error to which Meyran admits.

What television demonstrates in association football, and even in cricket, is that those whom we entrust to make the decisions are right far more often than they are wrong. When they are deliberately wrong, as has been seen in World Cup or European Cup football from time to time, then we are dependent on the integrity of the governing bodies to do something about it. That is another matter.

My opinion would be, on balance, that it is a disadvantage to try to employ technology in a moving sport where instant decision is necessary from moment to moment. American football uses television replays, but American football is little more than a sequence of set pieces.

If we want to avoid long counts in boxing, then perhaps there should be a buzzer, as in *Mastermind*. It is less complicated, however, to live with the human error to which Meyran admits.

THE GREAT BORROWING BREAKTHROUGH!
Borrow now — repay later
Interest-Only Loans at only 16.9% APR (variable)

MONTHLY INTEREST-ONLY PAYMENTS OVER 5 TO 25 YEARS			
Amount you borrow	Monthly interest payment	Amount outstanding at end of loan term	APR rate
£25,000	£327.50	£25,000	16.9% Limited period only
£15,000	£196.50	£15,000	
£5,000	£65.50	£5,000	
£2,500	£32.75	£2,500	

Example: For a loan of £25,000 for 5 years you will make 60 monthly interest payments of £327.50, followed by repayment of the capital sum. Total interest £20,600. Interest rates available on request.

It's safe, it's simple and it means you can afford the money you need NOW. Heritable's interest-only loans slash the cost of borrowing — with monthly payments up to less than half those of our standard loans. Loans available from £1,000 to £50,000.

Our Family Protected Income Plan, which ensures your payments are met in the event of sickness, accident and even redundancy, is a low cost option and includes free life assurance. WE RECOMMEND THIS ADDITIONAL PROTECTION AS YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

The loan is secured on your home, to enable us to offer very competitive rates — from people you can trust. Check the panel above to see how little it costs. Complete the coupon below or phone us FREE — anytime — for a leaflet or to discuss your financial needs with one of our friendly helpful staff.

SELF-EMPLOYED WELCOME TO APPLY

PHONE 0800 521770

Please send me your leaflet on: Interest-Only Loans ☐ (Please tick) Standard Loans ☐

Name _____ Address _____

Postcode _____ Tel. No. _____

To: Heritable Capital Plan Limited
Freeport (no stamp required), Reading RG1 1BR
Tel: 0734 393939 Fax: 0734 500832
A little help when you need it.

Treacy's second

Tokyo (Reuters) — John Treacy, aged 32, who won a silver medal for Ireland in the Seoul Olympic Games, took second place in two hours 11 minutes 23 seconds in the Tokyo international marathon yesterday.

The race was won by Takeyuki Nakayama, of Japan, in 2hr 10min 57sec. Denismo, of Ethiopia, the world record holder, came in third at 2:11:32.

Bears details

Manchester Spartans, the British American Football champions, will play Moscow Bears, the first Russian side to tour this country, in an exhibition match on April 1.



Bryant: winning again

Finalist again

David Bryant, a nine times winner, has qualified for the final stages of the English indoor singles bowls championship at Milton Mowbray next month. In the last of his regional qualifying matches at Nailsea yesterday he beat Mike Prosser, 21-16.

Open indoors

Linford Christie, the Commonwealth 100 metres champion, will compete this weekend in the Omron Games at Cosford, the first big fixture of the 1990 domestic indoor athletics season.

Late bloom

Ness Flowers, the former Wigan scrum half, will make his debut for the Welsh rugby league team at the age of 35 when he plays against the English Students at South Glamorgan Institute on Sunday. Flowers earned his first Welsh cap in 1980.

Chile change

Chile has agreed, with FIFA backing, to revolutionize its league football to make the game more attractive. The off-side law is abolished, throw-ins will be replaced by kick-ins, defensive walls are banned for free-kicks 25 metres from goal and corners will be given when the ball goes out of touch so long as it is outside the penalty box. No points will be awarded for goalless draws and clubs who win by at least three goals will get three instead of two points.

Athletics cash

Topline, the Swansea-based group of companies, has agreed a £100,000 sponsorship deal over four years for Welsh athletics.

Wakefield Trinity get a plum tie in cup draw

From Keith Macklin

Luck was in for Yorkshire, but out for Cumbria, when the draw for the quarter-finals of the Silk Cut rugby league challenge cup was made at Leeds yesterday.

The two remaining Yorkshire sides, Bradford Northern and Wakefield Trinity, received home draws, but Whitehaven, the outsiders of the competition, ran out of good fortune and have to visit last season's beaten finalists, St Helens.

Wakefield Trinity drew the plum of the round with a tie at Belle Vue against the holders and favourites, Wigan. Bradford Northern, who have struggled to find their best form, are at home to another side still unable to find their full potential, Warrington.

The second favourites, the champions Widnes, after several years of continuous away ties, have been handed another home game, this time against the second division side and promotion challengers, Oldham.

Shaun Edwards, the Wigan and Great Britain stand-off

half, was suitably cautious about his team's prospects at Wakefield. "We went there to play a championship game early last season, and were well beaten. They ran rings around us in the first half, and though we played better in the second half, we couldn't catch them. We will certainly not be over-confident about this one."

Whitehaven had hoped for a third consecutive home draw after dismissing first division Leigh and second division Keighley at their own compact Recreation Ground.

They will not relish a visit to St Helens, where last season's finalists, who were not merely beaten, but humiliated, by Wigan at Wembley, are discovering a new lease of life under their New Zealanders, the newly arrived coach, Mike McClellan, and loose forward, Shane Cooper.

The matches will be played on the weekend of February 24 and 25.